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VERIFIED

U. S. NAVAL AVIATION SAFETY CENTER
U. S. NAVAL AIR STATION
NORFOLK, VIRGINIA 23511

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NASC/dy Ser 12/1188 18 September 1964

## SPECIAL HANDLING REQUIRED IAW OPNAVINST P3750.6 SERIES

From: Commander, U. S. Naval Aviation Safety Center

To: Commanding Officer, U. S. Naval Weapons Evaluation Facility, Kirtland Air Force Base, Albuquerque, New Mexico

Subj: NWEF Albuquerque AAR ser 1-64A concerning C-54Q BuNo 56522 accident occurring 6 February 1964, pilot MORRIS

- 1. The subject report and all endorsements thereon have been reviewed. The Naval Aviation Safety Center concurs with the comments and recommendations of the Aircraft Accident Board as modified by subsequent endorsers.
- 2. The most probable cause of this accident is pilot error. Considering the relatively limited experience in the aircraft of the pilot and co-pilot, the long elapsed time since their last actual instrument approaches, and the adverse weather conditions prevailing at the time of the accident, it is apparent that the pilot attempted a maneuver for which he was at best marginally qualified. In attempting to remain contact under minimum weather conditions, the pilot obviously exceeded the limit of his capabilities.
- 3. The cause of this accident has been recorded by the Center indicating the pilot (attempted to maintain contact under marginal weather conditions) as the primary factor and other personnel (supervisory) and weather as contributing factors.

(b) (6)

By direction

Copy to: BUWEPS (F-12) (2) COMNAB 3, 8 CNARESTRA BUWEPSREP INGLEWOOD

9 JUN 1964

SPECIAL HANDLING REQUIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 66, OPHAVINST P3750.6E

FIFTH ENDORSEMENT on NWEF AAR 1-64A concerning C-54Q BUNO 56522, Accident occuring 6 February 1964, pilot MORRIS.

From: Commander, Naval Air Bases, EIGHTH Naval District To: Commander, U. S. Naval Aviation Safety Center

Subj: Aircraft Accident Report; forwarding of

1. Forwarded.

2. The original of the THIRD ENDORSEMENT by Commander Naval Air Bases, EIGHTH Naval District, is considered lost. A duplicate original has been inserted.

W. B. TRACY Jr.

Copy to: BUWEPS (Code F-123) CO NWEF Kirtland AFB CONNABS THREE

3 JUN 1964

FOURTH

SHIRD ENDORSEMENT on NMEF AAR 1-64A concerning C-54Q BUNO 56522, accident occurring 6 February 1964, pilot MORRIS

From: Chief, Bureau of Naval Weapons

To: Commander, U. S. Naval Aviation Safety Center

Via: (1) Commander, Naval Air Bases, EIGHTH Naval District

Subj: Aircraft Accident Report

- 1. Readdressed and forwarded.
- 2. The Bureau concurs in the conclusion and recommendations of the Board and subsequent endorsers. Review of R&D activities progress on NATOPS requirements will be conducted during each comprehensive Survey.

(b) (6)

By direction

COMDR NAB 3rd ND CO NWEF, Kirtland AFB

008:WRZ:kh 2 2 APR 1964

SPECIAL HANDLING REQUIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 66, OPNAVINST P3750.6E

THIRD ENDORSEMENT on NWEF AAR 1-64A concerning C-54Q BUNO 56522, Accident occuring 6 February 1964, pilot MORRIS.

From: Commander, Naval Air Bases, Eighth Naval District
To: Commander, U. S. Naval Aviation Safety Center

Via: Chief, Bureau of Naval Weapons

Subj: Aircraft Accident Report; forwarding of

- Forwarded concurring with the conclusions and recommendation of the basic report and the recommendations of the FIRST ENDORSEMENT with the following exceptions:
- a. The FIRST ENDORSEMENT in paragraph 5.e. requests that the difference between the requirements of OPNAVINST 3740.4C and the C-54 NATOPS Manual be resolved. The letter of promulgation of the C-54 NATOPS Manual dated 26 April 1963, and the subsequent edition, specifically states that "Should conflict exist between this manual and other publications, this manual will govern". Therefore, since no waiver was requested in Captain MORRIS's Plane Commander designation request, this endorser must consider Captain MORRIS to have been ineligible at the time of his designation.
- b. Both the original NATOPS Manual and the latest revisions state that "Whenever possible, scheduling officials should give consideration to the varying experience levels of crew members". Since the pilot and co-pilot had only 161 and 154 hours respectively in the C-54, this must be considered to be a "weak" crew and should not have been scheduled. It is the opinion of this endorser that Supervisory Error (scheduling) be included as a contributing cause factor.
- An extra copy of the AAR and all endorsements has been forwarded to Navy Flight Safety Liaison Officer, Deputy Inspector General for Safety, Norton Air Force Base in accordance with subparagraph 47.e.(2)(e) of OPNAVINST P3750.6E.

B. A. BANCROFT

Advance copy to: NAVANSAFCEN (2)

Copy to: COMNABS THREE NWEF BWR EL SEGUNDO NAVFLTSAFLIAOFF, NORTON AFB

# ORIGINAL

FF12/RMC:1ge 3750 Ser: AO/571 13 April 1964

SECOND ENDORSEMENT on NWEF AAR 1-64A concerning C-54Q BUNO 56522, accident occurring 6 February 1964, pilot MORRIS

From: Commanding Officer, U.S. Naval Weapons Evaluation Facility,

Kirtland Air Force Base, Albuquerque, New Mexico
To: Commander, U.S. Naval Aviation Safety Center

Via: (1) Commander, Naval Air Bases, EIGHTH Naval District

(2) Chief, Bureau of Naval Weapons

Subj: Aircraft Accident Report

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST P3750.6E

Encl: (1) NWEF C-54Q Ground Training Syllabus

(2) NWEF C-54Q Flight Training Syllabus
(3) Special Instrument and Yearly Standardization Flight

Check for for CAPT MORRIS dtd 12 Jun 1963
(4) Corrected C-54Q Examination completed by CAPT MORRIS

(5) NWEF Instruction 1510.2 dtd 29 Jan 1964

#### 1. Forwarded.

2. The following comments are made on portions of the accident report considered applicable to the NWEF:

#### PART VII INVESTIGATION AND ANALYSIS

a. PAR. B.l.a. - Captain MORRIS was recommended for Plane Commander designation based on second tour pilot requirements specified in Par. 6.e. of OPNAVINST 3740.4C. He had been previously qualified in multi-piloted aircraft and was therefore not required to meet first tour pilot requirements, including 250 hours pilot time in model.

Captain MORRIS satisfactorily completed an instrument check on 29 April and an instrument standardization check on 12 June 1963. Through administrative error, the yearly standardization checks were not entered in the pilot's log book as required by OPNAVINST 3740.4C.

b. PAR, B.l.b. - CDR BAKER was likewise designated in a classification commensurate with his ability without progressing through a lower classification in accordance with the local interpretation of OPNAVINST 3740.4C. Although he was well familiar with the airplane and considered to be a competent Second Pilot, he did not possess the ability in the C-54 for Plane Commander designation even though his time in model was well above the minimum required by the NATOPS manual in effect during his training for upgrading.

SPECIAL HANDLING REQUIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 66, OPMAVINST P3750.6E

ORIGINAL

c. PAR. B.3.a. - The pilot was considered to have attained minimum requirements for Plane Commander certification at the time of designation as stated in par. 2.a. above.

The C-54 NATOPS Manual was not yet available during Captain MORRIS' training cycle but ground and flight training during this period, though somewhat less than formal, were considered adequate. NWEF pilots qualifying in the C-54 were given a series of lectures covering aircraft systems, normal operating procedures, emergency procedures, crew management, cruise control, and weight and balance. Handbook exams, corrected to 4.0, were completed by all trainees. Local training was necessarily limited due to aircraft availability vs necessary logistic and administrative flights required of the single aircraft assigned. Captain MORRIS' local training time in model was admittedly limited but maximum training was conducted on cross-country flights in his case, as well as for other qualifying pilots. This training was conducted by a nucleus of three former MATS and Navy VR Aircraft Commanders who were most thorough and exacting in their instruction.

In the case of Captain MORRIS, these instructors, all of whom flew with him both before and after his designation as Plane Commander, were of the unanimous opinion that Captain MORRIS was among the most conscientious and capable aviators they had ever instructed. He was extremely meticulous in following prescribed procedures and had the unusual ability to always be "ahead of the airplane". Consequently he was able to perform well thought out evolutions promptly and smoothly.

d. PAR. E.l. - NATOPS currency requirements were known to both pilots concerned. However, employment of the assigned aircraft on necessary unit missions precluded accomplishment of approach and landing deficiencies in model prior to the extended flight on which the crash occurred.

The required approaches were completed by both pilots in other models as summarized in enclosure (R) of the AAR and, although no records were maintained, it is considered that other deficiencies enumerated in the AAR were accomplished since all C-54 pilots were instructed to practice one and two engine out emergencies whenever feasible during simulated instrument approaches.

#### PART VIII CONCLUSIONS

a. The stated cause is highly probable both from preconceived ideas based on minimum information concerning the accident and from the comprehensive information contained in the investigation and witness' statements. There is also a strong possibility that other causes such as loss of power on one or more engines through mechanical failure or carbureter or prop icing, inability to increase power due to frozen throttle linkage, split flaps, restriction of control surfaces or control actuating mechanisms due to mechanical failure or icing, loss of lift from surface icing, or visibility restriction due to ice or steam on the windshield or side window could have been cause factors. Although the AAR contains the statement that mechanical failures were investigated there is no evidence that all the possible causes were specifically considered.

Some form of icing would appear to be the most probable of these causes based on the highly conducive weather conditions stated in the AAR and (b) (6) belief that prop alcohol was being used during the approach.

#### PART IX RECOMMENDATIONS

- a. All recommendations of the basic AAR are concurred with.
- b. Air-crew member qualification records and procedures have been formalised and made more stringent to conform with the NATOPS manual. A thorough review and revamping of training, operating, and qualification procedures and records is presently being conducted to assure compliance with existing directives.
- 3. The following comments are made in response to the comprehensive and searching analysis made in the First Endorsement:
- a. PAR. 3.c. This analysis, derived from the last transmission heard from the aircraft and the maneuver being performed, is certainly plausible. However, the NWEF officers who listened to the tape recording are absolutely certain that all transmissions heard from 522, including the last, were made by CDR BAKER.

This being the case, it is inconceivable that CDR BAKER could have been controlling the airplane and operating the hand held mike simultaneously while addressing himself.

The Flight Mechanic ((b)(6)... AE1), though understandibly uncertain in his recollection of events immediately preceeding the crash, does recall CDR BAKER pointing out the airspeed to CAPT MORRIS at some point between pull-up and striking the trees. This would appear to support the analysis by the board that CAPT MORRIS was actually controlling the aircraft.

- b. PAR. 3.h. Pertinent documents relating to crew member qualifications and syllabi in use at the NWEF are attached as enclosures (1) through (5). C-54 NATOPS Stan/Eval Supplements have not yet been received by the NWEF. Standardization checks have been conducted in accordance with the procedures outlined in the NATOPS manual since receipt of the manual in June 1963. Crew member qualifications are presently being conducted in accordance with enclosure (5) which went into effect one week before the accident. As certified by this command to the board, both SEITZ and (b) (6) had completed the requirements for designation as air-crew members. The paperwork to formally designate them in accordance with enclosure (5) had not been accomplished.
- c. PAR 4.a.(2) Use of non-agreed upon cockpit procedures is certainly a possibility but is not apparent from the investigation. The stated possibility that control of the aircraft changed at any time is considered invalid as stated in Par. 3.a. above. It is further considered that CAPT MORRIS would have fully appreciated the inadvisability of this action under the prevailing circumstances.

- d. PAR. 4.a.(3) The pilot's decision to undertake the flight with fore-cast marginal weather was undoubtedly effected by the consideration that if a landing could not be made at destination or alternate, he still had sufficient endurance to return to departure point or some other alternate with more favorable weather. This is evidenced by the fact that an estimated 4 + 00 hours of extra fuel was taken aboard prior to departure. Adherence to itinerary was also a consideration for making the flight since high priority test equipment to be loaded at Peconic was urgently required the following day at the NWEF for prosecution of A-6A BIS Trials.
- e. PAR. 4.a.(4) Pilot qualifications in accordance with existing directives are discussed under par. 2.a. above. There is no indication of the specific requirements of OPNAVINST 3720.2B which were not met and none are apparent from the AAR. CAPT MORRIS objectively interpreted the words "qualified in model" of Par. 11.e. of OPNAVINST 3710.15D to mean co-pilot designated as a 2 P or 3 P. This interpretation agrees with the terminology in Section IV, Par. 4.a.(1) P. 13 of OPNAVINST 3710.7A wherein the co-pilot "qualified in model" does obviously not have to be an Aircraft Commander.

Chief of Naval Operations is requested to advise the NWEF concerning the validity of this interpretation and that contained in par. 2.a. above for future guidance.

f. PAR. 4.a.(5) - Maintaining proficiency in other aircraft than the C-54, by the pilots involved, was not done at the expense of reduced proficiency in the C-54. Flight time available in the one C-54 assigned was divided as equally as possible among the minimum number of pilots required to conduct transport and logistic flights necessary to the accomplishment of the Unit mission. These pilots were encouraged to utilize other types of aircraft when it was not their "turn" in the C-54 in order to maintain overall pilot and instrument proficiency. A cursory examination of Enclosure (R) to the AAR will reveal that both pilots were extremely conscientious in utilizing this flight time effectively.

## g. PAR. 4.b.:

- (1) Par. 4.b.(3) Continuous use of oxygen is not considered feasible in the C-54 due to the deficiencies of the installed equipment. A practical policy of utilizing oxygen intermittently at night above 5,000 feet, depending on duration and pilot fatigue, was employed by assigned pilots. Oxygen was almost always utilized prior to and during descent to below 5,000 feet on night approaches. CAPT MORRIS was most conscientious in this regard and would have placed more than normal importance on this procedure on the night in question.
- (2) Par. 4.b.(4) The analysis in this paragraph referring to Mental Overload is highly pertinent. In this regard it is noted that the Tower Supervisor and Tower Controller state in Enclosure (L) and (M) to the AAR that 522 was cleared for a 270 turn to the left for runway 14. The transcript of Peconic Tower recording tape, Enclosure (K), however, states the actual

transmission as "Take a left 270 if you wish or a right 360 onto Rummay 14." The 270 left turn would appear to be the most obvious and more preferable maneuver but the fact that "A right 360 onto Rummay 14" were the last words the pilot heard was quite possibly detrimental in that this suggestion was automatically taken rather than performing the mental considerations required to arrive at the most preferable course of action due to the limited time available and the mental state of the pilot

(3) In addition to the contributing causes listed in section 4.b., gross weight of the aircraft should be included. The estimated weight of 63,000, which is only 500 pounds under recommended maximum gross landing weight, would have had an appreciable effect during the maneuver which was apparently being executed.

Failure of the ILS facility should also be listed as a contributing factor. Restoration of this facility after the pilots had set up for a VOR approach and the subsequent hurried and inadequate preparation for an ILS approach were the first elements in the chain of abnormal events which led to the fatal crash.

4. This command heartily concurs in the recommendations contained in the First Endorsement to the AAR with the exception of Par. 5.b.. The recommended investigation may be possible but is not applicable to the pilots of the NWEF as no assigned pilots or aircraft are utilized primarily for proficiency. All scheduled flights are primarily for necessary training, project, or administrative/logistic purposes.

The number of pilots qualified in a particular model aircraft is restricted to that required to perform necessary project work and in the case of non-project aircraft, to that necessary to perform required administrative/logistic flights.

Restriction of pilots to either jets or props at this activity is not considered necessary or desirable since it would not provide flexibility in the employment of pilots and aircraft assigned and would limit flight operations to the extent that accomplishment of assigned problems and tasks would be reduced to an unacceptable level.

5. Based on entries in his flight log, CAPT MORRIS was involved in no pilot error accident during the period 1 January 1956 through 5 February 1964. His accident record prior to 1956 is not available locally.

The available flight log accident record for CDR BAKER extends back only to 1 January 1962. The record shows no pilot error accidents during this period.

F. F. Towell

5

SPECIAL HANDLING REQUIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 66, OPNAVINST P3750.6E

#### Enclosure (1)

#### RSD PILOT GROUND TRAINING SYLLABUS

#### Period Ones

1. Aircraft General

a. Description

b. Preflight check procedure
(1) Exterior inspection
(2) Interior inspection.

#### Period Two:

1. Standard Operating Procedures

a. Starting Procedure

(1) Techniques and precautions (2) Common errors.

b. Taxi procedures

Techniques and precautions Common errors.

Engine Run-up Procedures

1) Techniques and precautions

(2) Common errors.

#### Period Three:

Standard Operating Procedures.

a. Before take-off procedure
b. Take-off procedures

Normal take-off

Instrument and night take-off ... Crosswind take-off

Short field take-off

c. Techniques and precautions

d. Common errors.

#### Period Four:

Standard Operating Procedures

a. Climb-out procedures
(1) Techniques
(2) Common errors.
b. Cruise Control

c. Fuel System Management and Fuel Capacities (R5D-2,

#3, 4, and 5)

d. 011 System Management.

# OPSDEPTINST 3710.22

#### Period Five:

- Standard Operating Procedures.
- a. Instrument flight procedures
  b. Orientation methods and procedures

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- o. Radio range orientations
  - (1) Fade 90
  - Close-in

  - Glose-in Fade Parallel Fade perpendicular
- ADF and MDF

  - True fade Time and Distance Check
- VOR (CHEI)
- f. Holding procedures.

#### Period Sixt

- Standard Operating Procedures
  - a. Instrument letdown procedure
  - b. ILS and GCA
  - c. Low visibility approach
  - d. Missed-approach procedure.

#### Period Sevens

- Standard Operating Procedures
  - a. Landing-approach procedure

    - (1) Normal landing (2) Orosswind landing
    - Short-field landing
  - b. Techniques and precautions
  - Common errors.

#### Period Eight:

- Emergency Procedures
  - - Alarm bells
    - Aircraft fire extinguisher system
  - - Engine section fire

    - Wing fire
      Fuselage fire
      Smoke removal
      Raggage compartment fire
      Heater system fire.

Period Nine: 1. Emergency Procedures
a. Hydraulic system failure

- Refilling hydraulic reservoir in flight
- Emergency operation of the landing gear Emergency operation of the brakes
- Emergency air brake operation
- Emergency operation of the wing flaps
- b. Jettisoning carge dors in flight c. Emergency landing with wheels retracted.

Period Ten: 1. Emergency Procedures

- a. Engine failure
  - During take-off
  - During cruise
  - Engine failure due to loss of fuel pressure
  - Failure of two engines
- b. Propeller feathering and unfeathering procedures
- Lending with one engine inoperative
   Landing with two engines inoperative
- e. Three-engine take-off.

Period Eleven: 1. Emergency Procedures

- a. Turbulence
- b. Ice accretion
  - (1) Glaze
  - Rime
  - Frost
- c. Carburetor icing
- d. Anti-icing and deicing procedures.

Period Twelve: 1. Emergency Procedures

- a. Ditching procedures
  (1) Check list

  - General instructions and preparations
  - Surface conditions
  - After ditching procedure
  - Morale and rescue.

Period Thirteen: 1. Minimum Operating Equipment.

Period Fourteer: 1. Performance a. Cockpit check lists

- b. V1 and V2 Speeds
- c. Performance data.

Enclosure(1)

#### R5D WEIGHT AND BALANCE EXAMINATION

BASIC WEIGHT: 43,264 LBS.

BASIC INDEX: 84.0

OIL:

138 GALS. 0 7.5 LBS./GALS.

CREW:

4 @ 180 LES. EACH "A" COMPT.

CREW BAGGAGE: 4 @ 60 LBS. EACH "B" COMPT.

FUEL:

3560 GALS. @ 5.77 LBS./GAL.

PASSENGERS:

"C" COMPT. 6 @ 180 LBS.

"D" COMPT. 4 @ 180 LBS.

"E" COMPT. 4 @ 180 LBS.

"F" COMPT. 8 @ 180 LBS.

"G" COMPT. 4 @ 180 LBS.

"H" COMPT. 3 0 180 LBS.

CARGO:

"B" BELLY 435 LBS.

"H" BELLY 435 LBS.

#### Enclosure (2)

#### R5D FLIGHT TRAINING SYLLABUS

Period One: 1. Familiarisation

a. Exterior inspection

b. Interior inspection

c. Use of the check list

(1) Before starting (2) Before texi

d. Taxiing (Use of nose wheel and brakes)

e. Engine run-up procedures

f. Before take-off check list

g. Crew briefing h. Take-off procedure

(1) Power application and settings

1. Climb procedures
(1) V1 and V2 speeds
(2) Wormal airspeeds

Climbing turns

k. Level off

1. Cruise control and procedures

m. Approach to stalls
(1) Gear and flaps up

Power off

Power on

Gear and flaps down Power off

Power on

In normal turns

(a) Climbing (b) Descending

Standard rate turns

(1) Altitude

(3) Airspeed

eep turns

Altitude

Airspeed

Take-off and landings (no touch and go).

Period Two: 1. Instrument Airwork

a. Complete items a through 1 of first period

Enclosure (2)

ENCLOSURE [2]

# OPSDEPT INST 3710,22

- Instrument take-off
- c. Straight climbs
- d. Triple maneuver pattern
- e. Steep turns
- f. Unusual attitude (Partial and full panel)
- g. Engine failur procedures
- Take-offs and landings.

#### Period Three: 1. Orientations and Letdown Procedures

- a. Complete items 1 through 12 first period
- b. Instrument take-off
- c. Triple maneuver pattern
- d. Steep turns
- e. LF Radio Range orientations
- f. Initial (high-cone) procedure
- g. Procedure turn
- h. Final approach
- Minimum altitude low-cone procedure
- Missed-approach procedures 1.
- Emergencies
- Take-offs and landings.

# Period Four: 1. ADF/MDF, VOR, ILS, GCA and Low-approach techniques

- a. Complete items 1 through 12 of First Period
- b. Instrument take-off
- c. Triple maneuver
- Steep turns
- MDF crientation and time and distance problem ADF approaches
  VCR/ILS/GCA approaches
- f.
- Initial (high-cone procedures)
  Procedure turn
- Final approach 10
- Low-visibility approaches
- Emergencies
- Take-offs and landings

#### Period Five: 1. Night Flight

- a. Complete items 1 through 13 of First Period.
- b. Takeroffs and landings
- c. Emergencies.

#### Period Six: 1. Cross-country Flight (Min. 2 hrs.)

- a. Preflight duties b. Weather analysis

  - c. Weight and balance

- d. Weight and balance
- e. ATC clearences f. Use of check-off lists
- g. Starting engines
- h. Taxiing (use of nose wheel steering and brakes)
- 1. Take-off
- j. Cruise control
- k. Voice procedure 1. Airways procedure
- m. Approaches (and type of approach)
- n. Landings
- o. Knowledge of route.
- 2. Oral Quiz
  - a. Aircraft systems
  - b. Aircraft performance.
- 3. Military appearance
  - a. Attitude
  - b. Initiative
  - c. Judgement
  - d. Ability.

(1) Basic Air Work
(2) Unusual Attitudes
(3) Flight Planning
(4) Airways Flight (Roundrobin/cross-country)
(5) Partial Procedures
(6) Voice Procedures
(7) Let Downs: AIF(1), OMNI(1), ILS(1), IP Range(1), Other CCA (1).
(8) Emprencies (1), Other STANDARCH AIRS
(1)

Recommended for Standard/Special card.
(b) (6)

Check Pilot

has satisfactorily completed the ground and flight phase of his instrument renewal. Special/Standard instrument rating is recommended.

C-54 INSTRUCTS STUD MONZATION CAREK

Florin C-549 BUNO 56525

#### FIRST INDORSEMENT

From: Commanding Officer

To: Senior Member Flight Board

1. Special/Standard instrument rating approved.

Commanding Officer

Senior Member

CAPT MORRIS

teletres the appears

# U. S. NAVAL WEAPONS EVALUATION FACILITY Kirtland Air Force Base Albuquerque, New Mexico

20 February 1962

# R5D EXAMINATION

1. Engines installed in the R5D are four 14 cyl, twin real
aircooled Fratt + Whithen , R-2000.
2. With landing gear retracted, the gear warning horn sounds when
any throttle is retarded to less than 4 open.
3. Manually leaning the carbeurator below the AUTO-LEAN (CRUISE)
setting is not recommended since operating in this range may
cause detenation and torque fluctuation .
4. Each engine incorporates an integral 5/49/e 5/99e;
two speed supercharger.
5. Carbeurator air filters are not installed in the assigned R5D.
With the installed mechanical controls in the HOT position, the
Vam gir door shuts off told airflow and
the bot air door is opened to allow preheated air to
enter the carbeurator. In the COLD position, the RAM AIR DOOR is
open, allowing cold ram air to enter the carbeurator,
and the HOT AIR door is closed, shutting off the supply of the
proheated air.
6. Can intermediate positions of the carbeurator air levers
be used to obtain the desired CAT? Yes
7. The synchroscope indicates the speed of the other three
engines with respect to engine No

- 8. Clockwise rotation of an engine synch needle indicates RPM on that engine is <u>fost</u>; counter-clockwise rotation of the needle would indicate <u>lower</u> RPM in relation to the master engine.
- 9. When the prop feathering motor is energized, high pressure oil from the pump automatically shuts off the metered flow of oil from the propeller governor and supplies high pressure oil to the propeller pitch change mechanism to feather the selected propeller.
- 10. For feathering, 1.4 gal. of oil is reserved in each engine nacelle oil tank.
- 11. When a prop feathering button is depressed, the deathering is energized and a 28V DC holding cail holds the feathering switch in until the propeller is feathered, which requires approximately \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ seconds; the button then pops out to the normal position.
- 12: How can the feathering operation be interrupted? By
- 13. To unfeather a propeller in the air, the feathering button is whose of the feathered position and approximately 800 rom is indicated.
- 14. Each engine has an independent oil system with its own tank. The capacity of each tank is 22 ga/s, plus 34 ga/, expansion space.

15. What is the capacity of the auxiliary oil tank? 50 gol. plus 5 ngl. expansion . Where is the tank located? Relief even compartment under lower bunk: 16. Total usable fuel capacity in the six tank system without fuse lage tanks is 2800 gallons. The usable capacity of individual tanks is as follows: MAIN (Nos. 1 & 4) 500 gal. each MAIN (Nos. 2 & 3) 490 gal. each AUXILIARY (IH & RH) 420 gal, each 17. Where are the auxiliary fuel tank selector levers located? under floor plate aft of control pedasto, 18. What are the positions available on the left auxiliary tank selector lever? Oft, onto lettengines ton to all engines What are the positions for the right lever? 1th, eat. Ettengine, and an to all engines. 19. What function do the crossfeed selector levers accomplish? Then mechanically actuate the eross feel values to permit fact offer through the crossford line. Allows transfer between Lott + RH ming take 20. The DC power supply in the assigned R5D consists of two 300 ampere engine driven generators and two /2 volt, 88 amother storage batteries wired in series. 21. What is the minimum battery voltage required to close the battery relay enabling the generators to recharge the batteries? 18 v. 1/4

22. What electrical outputs can be measured by the DC selector
switch? Portgen, main bus + starbardgen.
23. Under what conditions do the generator warning lights
illuminate? Non generator voltage deps to less
than a velt of bettery valtage.
24. The assigned R5D has a two-inverter AC power installation.
What are these inverters called and what three switches control
the system? Radio inverter and radar power
Inverter. Inverter selector switch, Acpower
swifeliand radar power switch
25. Name the six components operated by the hydraulic system.
Wheels, flaps, nese when I stoering, windshield wigors,
coul flaps, and brakes.
26. Which engines power the two main hydraulic pumps? 2+3
Allows hydroulic fluid to be diverted
from the pamps directly to reservoir.
28. What is accomplished by placing the emergency landing gear
extension handle in the AFT or OPEN position? Doen 5 lending
gear emergency extension valve + permits offold
in up like to vetien to verevoir, reconstitut for ding gear to
29. When are the three green landing gear indicator lights
illuminated? When gear handle in down and no se and
mai'n gear ere down end locked.
ENCLOSURE I

30. When is the landing gear red warning light illuminated?
when any year is any position other than
Lullage or full Jours or when any throthe
is retarded post the 4 open position.
31. What three systems can be utilized to operate the brakes?
normal hydraulia system, hydraulia hand punmy,
and emergency air pressure
32. Which engines power the engine-driven vacuum pumps?
2 + 3
33. Name the six areas or components in which fire is indicated
by fire warning lights. Hincagine accessory sections,
the nese section, and the lower carge comportants
34. How many CO2 bottles are incorporated in the fire extinguis -
ing system and where are they located? 4. 2 each on perf
and starboard side of neverbeel comportments
35. How are the CO2 cylinders discharged? By pulling CO2
lischarge handles
36. What external indication is there that the CO2 cylinders
have been fired? Blows discs above nesewheel doors
37. What should be the position of the firewall shut-off valves
during preflight inspection? All in at 45 angle.
38. How much of the main gear strut piston should be exposed on
ground check? 34 . Nose gear strut?
3 % max.

est his caulty in the said

39. Where is the hydraulic fluid reservoir sight gage located and how can it be read? On stad side below reegses buring take-off, at what speed are the flaps retracted? 40. Muring take-off. climb power normally set? When 128 tts is reached check on 41. What should cylinder head temp be before shutdown? 180° w below . 2-14, ? 42. Give the minimum control speed for take-off configuration 83 Xts following gear retraction. 43. Recommended minimum one engine out operation is never less than //0 % of the minimum control speed ( 92 KIAS) or 1/5 % of power-off stall speed for the given gross weight. 44. At what gross weights is the minimum control speed greater that zero thrust stall speeds? \_\_\_\_ 60.000 45. What is the basic weight of the assigned R5D? 43, 169 lbs. 46. What is the approximate take-off weight with 1600 gal. fuel and crew of four? 53 788 47. What is the maximum allowable take-off gross weight? 73,000/bs. Maximum landing gross weight? 63,500

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Give the recommended take-off and flap retraction speeds for the following gross weights:

	TAKE-OFF	FLAP RET.
55,000 lbs.	88	107
60,000 lbs.	92	110
65,000 lbs.	95	115
70,000 lbs.	99	119
76,000 lbs.	103	135

49. Give the first eight steps to be performed in the event of engine failure during take-off after critical engine failure speed has been reached:

- climb at 1/2 speed

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- 5. Close thre Hle
- extinguisher selector

These eight steps MUST BE MEMORIZED. Refer to emergency check-list for remaining items to secure

engine failure in flight.
1. close throttle
2. feather
3. Mixture-idle cutoff
4. Pall Fire extinguister delector handle
5. If fire existe, pull CO2 hardle
These five steps MUST BE MEMORIZED. Refer to emergency
check-list for additional steps to secure engine.
51. For restarting an engine in flight the associated propelles
control should be in the full high position, airspeed
below 122 175. Turn engine minimum of 8
blades with starter and depress feathering button until propeller
windmills at 500 to 800 RPM.
52. If the fuel pressure drops below normal operating limits in
flight and the affected engine continues to operate normally,
and shat down engine it power is not necessary to solls
What alternative procedures could be utilized? Keep tagive sports
continue operating engine normally.

50. Give the first five steps to be performed in the event of

53. Give RPM and aircraft configuration for landing pattern with all engines operating and with one or two engines inoperative:

DOWNWIND BASE LEG

ALL ENGINES:				
RPM	2100	2300	2700	2700
FLAPS	_10_	110	as requir	d 15
GEAR	_down	down	down	up_
AIRSPEED	120	120	_110_	128
3 ENGINES:				
RPM	2300	2300	2 00	2700
FLAPS	10	10	20 mes	30
GEAR	up	_down	dewn	up in
AIRSPEED	122	122	122	best & felimb
2 ENGINES:				
RPM	2550	2550	2.700	2700
FLAPS	_ 0	_0_	10-	20_
GEAR	_up	UP.	down	up _ 1/
AIRSPEED				Speed and
Give the pro	cedure for lo	wering the	landing gea	r in the event
main hydraulic	system Tailu	re. Leu	ding goo	- lever-down
				sear extension

54.

GO-AROUND

U. S. NAVAL WEAPONS EVALUATION FACILITY Kirtland Air Force Base Albuquerque, New Mexico

Ser a volunteer for atterwance duties.

NWEF 1510.2 Code AO 29 Jan 1964

#### NWEF INSTRUCTION 1510.2

Commanding Officer, U.S. Naval Weapons Evaluation Facility,

Kirtland Air Force Base, Albuquerque, New Mexico

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Distribution List To:

Subj: Aircrewman; qualification and designation of

(a) BUPERS Manual, Article C7403 (b) OPNAV INST 1510.4C Ref:

(1) General Requirements for Aircrewman Encl: 2) Requirements for C54Q Crew Members
(3) Requirements for A1E Crew Members
(4) Requirements for S2A Crew Members

(5) Requirements for A3A Crew Members

- Purpose. To promulgate the provisions for aircrewman designation set forth by reference (a), and to establish procedures for the qualification of aircremmen in accordance with the requirements of reference (b).
- 2. Discussion. To promote the effectiveness of crew member performance and to enhance the prestige associated with the aircrewman designation, only those men who exhibit the initiative, interest, and broad knowledge of the professional airman will be designed as aircrewman. Personnel under orders as crew members will be as aircrewman. Personnel under orders as crew members will be allowed eighteen months to accomplish their qualification. For personnel under orders as crew members on 1 January 1963, this period will be computed as of that date. Thereafter the period will begin as of the date appropriate orders are issued. Personnel who fail to qualify as aircrewman after the eighteen month period will be ineligible for further crew member orders for a period of two years or until re-enlistment, The designation "Aircrewman" is valid only in those specific aircraft types in which qualification was achieved. Styres dame to Lord Day wheth
- 3. Eligibility. Aircreman candidates shall fulfill the following overall eligibility requirements as set forth in reference (a):
- a. Have completed at least two years Naval service and be currently serving as a Third Class Fetty Officer or above.

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- b. Be a volunteer for aircrewman duties.
- c. Be physically and psychologically qualified for aircrewman duties.

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- d. Satisfactorily meet all requirements established by reference (b) and set forth in enclosures (1) through (5).
- 4. Aircrewman Classification. The following classification and minimum requirements for designation as aircrewman have been established by reference (b):
  - a. Flight Engineer 100 panel hours in an appropriate aircraft.
  - b. Flight Crew Plane Captain fifty hours as Plane Captain.
- c. Attack Aircrewman fifty hours as aircrewman in an appropriate aircraft. Stedmen ward ACS Ton stammarticash
- d. Flight Communications Operator fifty hours in an appropriate aircraft, send and receive five letter code groups at not less than fourteen groups per minute.
  - e. ECM/AEW Aircrewman fifty hours in an appropriate aircraft.
- f. ASW Aircremman fifty hours in an appropriate aircraft.
- g. Special Duty Aircrewman participate in at least ten operational flights requiring the appropriate technical specialty. od strongent, Pergonnel ander orders an eyes name

# 5. Action lastitions theme antiquesca of materials beautic

a. Coordination and supervision of aircremman training is assigned to the Aircremman Training Officer. He shall maintain such records as necessary to properly control crew training and the successful progress of all aircremman candidates. Upon each successful completion of the training, the AC Training Officer will submit a request for designation of the aircremman candidate to the Commanding Officer, via the Department Head concerned. Appropriate entries will be made in the daily diary and individual service records, the NEC codes reviewed for possible change recommendations. The Aircreft codes reviewed for possible change recommendations. The Aircraft Project Officer will submit and keep current the appropriate enclosure to this Instruction for aircrewman qualification in his assigned aircraft. - andress Israel orase was dead in befolgeon svall to ently serving the abine Close Feety Diviser on above

NWEF 1510.2

b. Completion of training requirements will be accomplished through shop instruction, scheduled group training, and training flights. All candidates will complete the requirements set forth in enclosure (1), and the appropriate check form contained in enclosure (2) through (5).

SK. H. MORRIS

Distribution: List 1

# General Requirements for Aircrewman

1. Minimum two years Naval Service, PO3 or above.

		(Personnel Officer)	(Date)
2.	Flight physical completed (wit	hin previous 12 months).	
		(Flight Surgeon)	(Date)
3.	Low pressure chamber checkout	(within previous 24 months).	
			1
		(Flight Surgeon)	(Date)
<b>h</b> .	First aid lecture.		
		(Corpsman)	(Date)
5.	Survival lecture.		
		(AC Training Officer)	(Date)

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# Requirements for C54Q Plane Captain

#### A. FRE-FLIGHT

- 1. General familiarity with aircraft
- 2. Proper execution of daily pre-flight check form
- 3. Proper oil and fueling procedures
- 4. Knowledge of Supply forms in A/C flight packet
- 5. Calculation of weight and balance data
- 6. Proper cargo stowage
- 7. Submission of yellow sheet
- 8. Location of electrical component circuit breakers
- 9. Starting engines
- 10. Complete working knowledge of pilot check list
- 11. Demonstrate knowledge of taxi signals
- 12. Be able to taxi aircraft

#### B. IN-FLIGHT

- 1. Demonstrate proper use of all A/C communication and navigation radios.
  - 2. Proper use of all A/C survival equipment
  - 3. Demonstrate knowledge of A/C ditching and bail out procedures
  - 4. Demonstrate knowledge of fuel system operation and management
  - 5. Demonstrate knowledge of engine standard operating procedures

#### NWEF 1510.2

6. Demonstrate knowledge of all anti-icing and de-icing equipment

describe he in the restrict for the form of the

1. Demonstrate success wer of the

6. Proper cargo Borniga

THULIST MI

- 7. Emergency operation of
  - a. Landing gear
  - b. Hydraulic system
  - c. Propellers
  - d. Blectrical system
- 8. Feathering and unfeathering procedures

#### C. POST-FLIGHT

- 1. Proper post flight inspection
- 2. Proper yellow sheet entries
- 3. Demonstrate ability to secure A/C for gale conditions

#### D. MAINTENANCE PROCEDURES

- 1. Replace prop governor and set high RPM
- 2. Read and understand engine analyzer
- 3. Operations of oil occlers and regulators
- 4. Oil pressure adjustment
- 5. Remove, clean and install fuel strainers
- 6. Replace engine driven fuel pump and adjust pressure
- 7. Replace carburetor and adjust idle settings and linkages
- 8. Change hydraulic pump
- 9. Know service procedures for hydraulic reservoir and accumulators.

- 10. Knowledge and operation of
  - a. A/C heating and ventilating system
- Mondo # b. Oxygen system empirosa eldentilggs to notificens remove is
  - c. Fire extinguishing system
  - 11. Service and repair wheel and brake assemblies
  - 12. Replace and troubleshoot generators 1 vignes to sale in the
- 13. Demonstrate working knowledge of electrical system and

Requirements for C54Q Flight Communications Operator

- 1. General familiarity with aircraft was a valida available in
- 2. Proper execution of applicable sections of daily preflight check form.
- 3. Proper oil and fueling procedures
- 4. Knowledge of Supply forms in aircraft flight packet
- 5. Ability to send and receive five letter code groups at not less than 14 groups per minute.
- 6. Ability to operate and troubleshoot all installed electronics equipment
- 7. Demonstrate working knowledge of electrical system and components
- 8. Proper use of all A/C survival equipment
- 9. Demonstrate knowledge of A/C ditching and bailout procedure

NWEF 1510.2

# Requirements for C54Q Flight Orderly Land

- 1. General familiarity with aircraft they bon and the said
- 2. Proper execution of applicable sections of daily preflight check form
- 3. Proper oil and fueling procedures some though him surveys . Al
- 4. Knowledge of Supply forms in aircraft flight packet and all
- 5. Proper cargo stowage sis to eshelvened shiptow error amound .El
- 6. Proper use of all A/C survival equipment
- 7. Demonstrate knowledge of A/C ditching and bailout procedures
- 8. Demonstrate ability to secure A/C for gale conditions
- S. Proper execution of applicable meetions of daily profil . cher-
  - A. Chapter of I and fuellan procedures
  - Wir Monaladge of Supply Torms in sireral's filget packer
  - b. Ability to send and inceive five letter code groups a ...
  - Later 14 groups per minute.
  - submarable ballstent II Enclosure (2) bas samen of william .

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- Tr. Demonstrate working knowledge of electrical against work and components
- 8. Proper use of all A/C survival equipment
  - By lamonstrate monthedge of A/C ditenting and ballout procedure

### Requirements for AlE Crew Member

### A. PRE-FLIGHT

- 1. General familiarity with aircraft
- Be able to conduct a minimum pre-flight of A/C. (Oil, gas, oxygen, hydraulics, switches in proper position, location and use of wheel and bomb rack pins, etc)
  - 3. Proper cargo stowage
- 4. Working knowledge of taxi signals and proper use of fire bottle on starting

#### B. IN-FLIGHT

- 1. Demonstrate proper use of NAV/Communications equipment in A/C
- 2. Proper use of A/C survival equipment
- 3. Demonstrate knowledge of A/C ditching and bailout procedures for front and rear cockpit

### C. POST-FLIGHT

 Demonstrate proper securing procedure for A/C after shutdown (Chocks, pitot, wheel and rack pins, canopies, tie downs, jury struts, etc)

#### D. ADDITIONAL

- 1. Be familiar with procedures for hanging bombs/fuel tanks on A/C
  - 2. Be familiar with operation of bomb racks
- 3. Be able to operate armament and instrumentation switches in cockpit

  Enclosure (3)

### Requirements for S2A Crew Member

### A. PRE-FLIGHT

- 1. General familiarity with aircraft
- 2. Proper execution of daily preflight check form
- 3. Proper oil and fueling procedures
- 4. Location and function of all circuit breakers
- 5. Complete working knowledge of pilot check list
- 6. Starting and securing engines
- 7. Demonstrate use of auxiliary power equipment, fire bottle, and proper signals to direct starting of engines

#### B. IN-FLIGHT

- 1. Demonstrate proper use of NAV/Communications equipment in A/C
- 2. Proper use of A/C survival equipment
- 3. Demonstrate knowledge of A/C ditching and bailout procedures
- 4. Demonstrate emergency operation of flaps, torpedo bay doors, and landing gear (know where to cut cockpit deck for emergency nose gear lowering).

#### C. POST-FLIGHT

- 1. Proper engine shutdown procedures for all weather conditions (including oil dilution)
- 2. Demonstrate ability to secure A/C after shutdown for all weather conditions

Enclosure (4)

NWEF 1510.2

### Requirements for A-3A Flight Crew Plane Captains

While normally not a member of the flight crew, the flight crew plane captain, both on the ground and in the air, is a vital member of the A-3A flight team. His qualification requirements include the following:

- 1. Properly complete the aircraft pre-flight inspection two hours prior to the first flight of the day.
- 2. Keep the aircraft clean and serviced for the mission assigned.
- 3. Have personal knowledge of all aircraft discrepancies and the status of each.
- 4. Check the stowage, availability and condition of all survival equipment required in the aircraft.
- 5. Ensure that frequency cards and cockpit check lists are up to date, neat and legible.
- 6. Assist the pilot and third crewman during the preflight inspection of the aircraft.
- 7. Assume the third crewman's inflight duties, excluding navigation, when flying in lieu of a third crewman or when directed by the pilot to do so.
- 8. Have a working knowledge of the A-3A/B hydraulic system, emergency systems, radios, and all flight equipment. Know thoroughly the requirements for servicing the aircraft.
- 9. Ensure adequate indoctrination and supervision of plane captain trainees assigned.

# OGRIGINAL

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23 MAR 1964

FIRST ENDORSEMENT on NWEF AAR 1-64A, concerning C-54, BUNO 56522, accident occurring 6 February 1964, pilot HORRIS

From: Commander Naval Air Bases, Third Naval District

To: Commanding Officer, U.S. Naval Weapons Evaluation Facility

Subj: Aircraft Accident Report

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST P3750,6E

(b) Handbook for Aircraft Accident Investigators (NAVWEPS 00-807-67)

(c) BUWEPS 2820532 PEB 64

(d) Telcon between Captain Hirman, CONNAB-3 and Captain BALL, NAVAVNSAFECEN, of 19 March 1964

### 1. Forwarded.

- 2. The subject report was received within the allotted 14 day time limit, was informally reviewed and returned for additional investigation. An additional 18 days extension was requested from BUWEPS and approved by reference (c). The present report is now in essentially the same form as originally received with some amplification. It is considered to be lacking in depth, incomplete in some details, but is forwarded in accordance with reference (d) in view of the time lapse which has already taken place since the accident.
- 3. The following specific comments are made:

### PART VII INVESTIGATION AND ANALYSIS

- a. Para A.1. states that Staff Sgt (b) (6) a survivor, was interviewed. There is no enclosure containing Staff Sgt (b) (6) statement.
- b, Para A.4. There is no statement by a meteorological officer documenting the weather situation at the time of the accident. In addition there is a lack of information on the weather briefing received at Bunker Hill, weather forecast enroute and destination, source of the weather report given the aircraft by Peccaic Tower, and method of determining the ceiling at Peccaic.
- c. Para A.7. states that tape of radio transmission from the aircraft contains a statement by CDR BAKER "Natch your head, Jack, you're at 300 feet." This was taken by the Board to mean a warning to CAPTAIN MORRIS to watch ahead, but this reasoning is not clear. Furthermore, CAPTAIN HORRIS' name is Kyle Hunter Horris. His co-pilot's name was CDR Robert Jackson Baker. The question arises as to whether the transmission was from CDR BAKER or from CAPTAIN HORRIS, and in the latter came there is a possibility that CDR BAKER was actually at the controls instead of CAPTAIN HORRIS. The fact that the aircraft was making a right-hand approach lends some weight to the possibility that control

was shifted to CDR BAKER some time shortly before the accident. A statement is further made that "CAPTAIN MORRIS was concentrating his attention on maintaining visual contact with the runway by looking out the co-pilot's window." There is no evident source of information which makes it possible for the Board to know that this was actually the true circumstance.

- d. Para A.9. There is no positive indication that the Board examined the wreckage with sufficient thoroughness to confirm the fact that material failure or malfunction was not a factor. The possibility of power loss of one or more engines, the possibility of a split flap condition was evidently not investigated, and in general the material investigation of the wreckage was covered in a cursory manner.
- e. Para A.ll. lists records received and not received from NWEF, but there is no comment nor analysis of these records, without which the report cannot be considered to be complete.
- f. Para B. 1.a. & b. lists certain facts concerning pilot flight time, but there is no analysis of these facts.
- g. Para B. 1.e. The MOR mentions non-use of oxygen and non-use of seat belts. However, no mention was made of this in the basic report, although the MOR should supplement and substantiate pertinent facts in the basic report.
- h. Para B.3. There is no indication of which specific OPNAV
  Instructions were not complied with and what specific minimum requirements
  in the directives were not met by CAPTAIN HORRIS and other pilots. Documentation was apparently not available from NWEF, either indicating
  compliance or non compliance of directives, although this information
  should be readily available. NWEF is requested to furnish any additional
  pertinent documentation as a supplement to this report.
- i. Para E. NATOPS requires completion of certain ground training for pilots and flight crew members. There is also a requirement for completion of formal flight training syllabi for pilots. The basic report fails to comment on any of these requirements for the pilots involved or to analyze such facts as are available. The report also contains a statement of a difference in flight time requirements in model between NATOPS and OPNAV directives but no comment is made as to the board's recommendation, OPNAVINST P3750.6E specifically asks whether a NATOPS requirement or procedure has been a factor. The report fails to answer this.

### 1. COMMENTS ON ENCLOSURES

(1) There are a number of facts contained in the various enclosures which are relevant to the accident but not contained in the basic report. The enclosures should substantiate the facts stated in the basic report and not be the sole repository of these facts.

- (2) Photographs show only wreckage in general and contain little or no detail as to the condition of various components, ie., engines, propellers, flaps. The photograph indicating the flight path, enclosure (Y), lacks completeness. The probable route of the aircraft in relation to local radio aids, approximate positions, times, altitude, identification of runways, and location of key witnesses should be shown in order to better understand the narrative of the accident.
- (3) It is noted that enclosure (R) is not complete nor is it in the format required by reference (a).
- 4. The Board fails to state any conclusions as to the underlying causes of the accident. Based on the facts available in the AAR, COMNAB-3 believes the most probable underlying causes to be as follows:
- a: Primary cause. The most probable cause is considered to be pilot error. Since it has not been established conclusively which pilot was at the controls at the time of the accident pilot error cannot be assigned to a particular pilot.
- (1) Errors by the pilot were made in approach and missed approach procedures. If aircraft material railure was not a factor, as it would appear from lack of evidence to the contrary, it can be stated that the pilot erred in the control of the aircraft by causing or allowing it to go into a steep bank at low altitude with apparently little power and to subsequently strike the ground. It can only be conjecture as to what caused the pilot to err in the control of the aircraft. Any one or combination of the following factors could have caused the pilot to err; vertigo, discrientation (spacial), inattention to the attitude of the aircraft and operating conditions, visual fixation on some object either in cockpit or outside, preoccupation with aircraft equipment.
- (2) The possibility exists that non-use of standard or agreed upon cockpit procedures also contributed to the accident. In connection with this there is also the possibility that control of the aircraft changed from the pilot who made the final approach to the acting co-pilot for the purpose of letting him make the landing (as he would have better view of the runway during a right turn), the change taking place at a time when the co-pilot was not oriented or ready to assume control.
- (3) It is considered that the pilot in command erred in judgment in attempting to go to Peconic for a landing at night when the forecast for both destination and alternate was marginal with a 300 foot ceiling, one mile visibility, rain, and fog. That the pilot erred in judgment is particularly emphasized when this flight is weighed against the records of the pilot's and co-pilot's limited training and experience in the C-54 aircraft.
- (4) Also under pilot error must be listed the failure to meet all the requirements for qualification in the C-54 aircraft and in instrument flight as listed in the NATOPS for the C-54, OPNAVINST 3720.28 and OPNAVINST 3740,4C. It would also appear that the pilot in command,

who was a Category IV aviator in Service Group III, was not operating the aircraft in compliance with the provisions of OPNAVINST 3710.15D which requires an aviator in Service Group III to be accompanied by an aviator in Service Group I or II qualified in model. The term "qualified in model" is taken to mean qualified as Aircraft Commander.

- (5) Finally, as a contributing factor in pilot error, is the apparent attempt of the pilots to obtain or maintain proficiency and qualification in several aircraft at the expense of not being completely proficient and qualified in the C-54.
- b. Contributing causes. Other causes contributing to the accident are as follows:
- (1) Weather. The low ceiling, turbulence and cross wind added to the approach and landing problems.
- (2) Fatigue. Fatigue of the pilots is considered a minor factor. Fatigue however would occur not only from the duration of the flight but would be aggravated by the poor weather and probable anxiety or tenseness from missed approaches.
- (3) Non-use of oxygen. There was no evidence that oxygen was used as required by OPNAVINST 3710.7A for night flights of aircraft above 5000 feet. However this is considered to be a minor factor.
- (4) Mental overload. There is also the possibility of a mental and task overload. After making two approaches under poor weather conditions and failing to land after the second approach the pilot was faced with a decision as to whether to execute another missed approach procedure or make a low visibility approach to runway 05. When the tower gave the pilot an option to use either 05 or 14 another decision had to be made as to the best runway to use. And finally when the tower gave the pilot an option to turn right 360° or left 270° another decision had to be made. All these decisions had to be made on little or no previous planning, and reaction and orientation had to take place in a minimum of time which together with the operation of the aircraft may have been too much for the pilot to cope with.
- 5. COMNAB-3 concurs in the recommendations of the board and adds the following recommendations:
- a. Since the pilot error factors involved are well known in accident prevention programs there are no recommendations to be made other than the publicizing of these errors and reemphasizing the salient points.
- b. It is recommended that an investigation be made to determine if it is advisable for pilots to attempt to maintain qualification and proficiency in several models of aircraft when there is no operational necessity for it. It is believed at least that pilots should not be permitted to attempt to maintain proficiency and qualification in four engine aircraft and high performance aircraft at the same time.

- c. It is recommended that a review be made of requirements for the use of oxygen. The present OPNAVINST 3710.7A requires the use of oxygen by crew members in non-pressurized aircraft on all flights when aircraft exceeds 10,000 feet during the day or 5,000 feet at night. The duration of flight, or time element, is not specified. Possibly the use of oxygen should be specified for lower altitudes when the flight is of long duration.
- d. The NATOPS Program promulgated in OPNAVINST 3510.9B states that the Standardization Evaluator administers STAN/EVAL checks to the Standardization Instructors of units designated by Cognizant Commands. It is recommended that Cognizant Commands insure that STAN/EVAL checks are conducted at all units, and in particular BUWEPS activities, which have the model aircraft for which the Cognizant Command has NATOPS responsibility.
- e. It is recommended that "in model" flight time requirements in the C-54 aircraft be reviewed as to adequacy and that the difference between the requirement of 250 hours contained in OPNAVINST 3740.4C and the 100 hours contained in the C-54 NATOPS be resolved. It is believed that the 100 hours in the C-54 would be adequate if the time were devoted primarily to NATOPS training. However, if a large part of this time were utilized in cross country flying, 100 hours would be considered inadequate.
- f. It is recommended that flight training syllabuses be standardized with a minimum flight time specified for each requirement of the syllabus.
- g. It is recommended that, under instrument flight requirements, a specific number of low visibility approaches be required periodically.
- h. It is recommended that consideration be given to the establishment of a standard flight training and qualification jacket which would contain a permanent record of a pilot's checks, exams and qualifications. This would furnish excellent background and documentation of a pilot's training and experience for review by accident boards.

Of HIMAN, III

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Other items considered appropriate should also be filled in.

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### PART V THE ACCIDENT

- 1. C-54Q Buno 56522 departed Kirtland AFB at 1327Z enroute Peconic River Airport, Calverton, L.I., N.Y. with an intermediate stop at Bunker Hill AFB, Peru, Indiana. Following a routine flight to Bunker Hill, 56522 landed at 1902Z and departed at 2019Z.
- 2. While enroute, in the vicinity of Robbinsville VORTAC, Navy 56522 was informed that Peconic ILS was out of service and Peconic weather was partial obscuration, measured 500 overcast, 12 miles visibility in light rain and fog, wind SE 26 kts. Later, upon radio contact with Peconic tower for a VOR approach, Navy 56522 was informed that Peconic ILS was back in operation. Navy 56522 then contacted NTATC, requested and received clearance for an ILS approach.
- 3. Navy 56522 again established radio communications with Peconic Tower when inbound to the middle marker. This approach was missed and the tower cleared 56522 for a second ILS approach. When 56522 reported over the outer marker inbound he was cleared to land on runway 05. The tower reported wind from 100 degrees, 15 to 20 kts. Tower personnel sighted the aircraft as it broke contact over the middle marker.
- h. Upon reporting contact the pilot advised the tower that he was experiencing too much drift and would go around. The tower offered a change in runway to reduce cross wind. This change was accepted by Navy 56522 and lights were switched from runway 05 to runway lh. The aircraft then commenced a right turn after wave-off. The aircraft descended in this turn and struck the ground after completing approximately 100° of turn.

### PART VI DAMAGE TO AIRCRAFT

- 1. Approximately sixty feet prior to initial impact tree tops were sheared and splintered. Aircraft configuration was 15° flaps and landing gear up. Initial contact was just below the lip of a small ground rise in a flat attitude and slightly right wing down. Ground contact was made with the right wing and fuselage, sluing the aircraft clockwise. On initial contact the starboard wing and nose section started breaking up with both starboard engines tearing free and preceding the rest of the wreckage. The forward fuselage continued breaking up spilling its contents along the right side of the wreckage path.
- 2. The number two engine contacted the ground approximately forty feet beyond the initial impact point with the number one engine making ground contact approximately forty feet beyond number two engine.
- 3. As the main wreckage continued up the impact path, the left wing broke at the fuselage sluing counterclockwise. The number two engine came to rest under the left wing about the number one engine nacelle. The tail section, still attached to the fuselage by the control cables came to rest on top of the forward fuselage section in a jack-knifed position.
- h. The right wing split laterally spilling fuel along the impact path causing a flash fire engulfing the entire area and lasting for a brief period of time. The number two engine continued to burn as did the port landing gear. Another fire continued in the center of the main wreckage area doing extensive damage to the forward fuselage and crew compariment.

SPECIAL HANDLING REQUIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SEC. I, OPNAVINST 3750.6E NWEF AAR 1.6hA

### PART VII INVESTIGATION AND ANALYSIS

#### A. General

- 1. Investigative personnel were on the scene of the accident within 40 minutes and the investigation commenced immediately. Witnesses were interviewed that night at the crash site except for Mr. Douglas, whose statement was taken the next day. The AAR Board was formally convened on 7 February 1964, when examination of real and testimonial evidence was continued. Both survivors, AEI (b) (6) and S/Sgt (b) (6) were interviewed by the Board on 8 and 10 February.
- 2. Navy 56522 departed Kirtland AFB at 1327Z on 6 Pebruary on an IFR flight plan for Bunker Hill AFB, Peru, Indiana. CDR BAKER was pilot and LCDR STOLPE was co-pilot for the take-off and landing. Enroute, Captain MORRIS relieved CDR BAKER for approximately two (2) hours and LT ARLE relieved LCDR STOLPE for approximately one hour. S/Sgt(b)(6) was a passenger on this flight but was not listed on the DD175 because he arrived late. Upon arrival at Bunker Hill at 1902Z, 1,015 gallons of 115/145 fuel was taken aboard. LCDR(b)(6) and AN JARVIS terminated at Bunker Hill and LT RALPH was added to the manifest as a passenger. Based on fuel and passenger load, weight of the airplane at the time of crash was computed to be 63,000 pounds, with an index of 26.1% of MAC which is well within limits.
- 3. Navy 56522 departed Bunker Hill AFB at 2019Z for Peconic River Airport. Captain MORRIS was in the pilot seat and CDR BAKER in the copilot seat and they remained at these positions for the remainder of the flight. AEI (b) (6) was the plane captain for this portion of the flight and occupied the jump seat between the pilots. At the time of the crash, the remaining personnel were located as follows: LT ABEL was in the pilots compartment standing behind (b) (6) S/Sgt (b) (6) was in the compartment normally occupied by the fuselage fuel tanks. This section had the tanks removed and was converted to a passenger compartment by installing eight (8) high density, passenger seats. SEITZ and CALDWELL were in the cargo compartment, positions unknown. The position of LT RALPH was unknown except that he was not in the passenger compartment. The most likely place for him would be somewhere in the pilots compartment.
- 4. The flight was uneventful until reaching the New York area.56522 was cleared from Bunker Hill AFB at 9,000 feet. At 2235Z over Ravine, Pa., 56522 was cleared by New York Center to 8,000 feet. At 2304Z, New York Center reported the Peconic ILS out of service, weather dropping rapidly; current weather 500° overcast, visibility 1½ miles. 56522 said that if Peconic was below minimums for a VOR approach, they would proceed to NAS, Quonset Point and requested Quonset weather.
- At 2328Z in the general vicinity of Southgate Intersection, 56522
   vas cleared to descend to 4,000 feet. They were further cleared to 3,000

feet and at 2334Z reported passing thru 4,000 feet. At 2335, the aircraft was cleared for a VOR approach and cleared to Peconic Tower. At 2336, 12 miles south of Riverhead, 56522 contacted Peconic Tower, intending to make a VOR approach. The weather was given as partial obscuration, measured 500' overcast visibility 1½ miles with light rain and fog. Runway 14 was the duty runway. 56522 was then notified that the ILS was back in operation (exact time unknown), and they elected to continue the VOR approach. The transmission on the Peconic tape was cut off at this time and contact was lost with 56522 for a short time. During this time, 56522 left Peconic Tower frequency and contacted New York Center at 2342Z requesting an ILS approach to Peconic. 56522 reported 5 miles west of Riverhead VOR at this time. New York Center granted this request and at 2344Z, 56522 returned to Peconic Tower, stated they had been cleared for an ILS approach and reported inbound to the middle marker.

- 6. Peconic Tower turned the lights on for Runway 05 and reported the wind was 100/18-25 knots. The first pass resulted in a missed approach and 56522 reported "just about overhead". A missed approach was executed except that a left turn to an inbound heading of 140° to the middle marker was made rather than the correct missed approach procedure of a climb to 1,000 feet on the NE course of the ILS, then a left climbing turn to 1,800 feet and proceed direct to Peconic Radio Beacon. 56522 was cleared for a second ILS approach and the wind was reported as 120/20-30 kts. 56522 then reported outbound just passed the middle marker and again inbound at the outer marker. The wind was then reported as 100/15-20 kts.
- 7. 56522's next report was contact but no landing could be made because they "...getting too much wind; we're drifting". The Tower observed 56522 breaking contact in a steep descent just passed middle marker. Peconic Tower then suggested using Runway 14 and when 56522 concurred, the tower switched runway lights from 05 to 14. At this time, Runway 14 was directly off the starboard beam of 56522. Peconic Tower suggested a 270 left or a 360 right to line up with Runway 14. 56522 executed a right descending turn and struck the ground | miles abeam Runway 14/32 on a heading of 1530. Two very significant factors were revealed by the investigation. Based on witness statements, including the testimony of AEL (b) (6) there was no significant addition of power following the wave-off decision up to the time of crash and seconds before the crash CDR BAKER made the following transmission in an excited voice. "Watch your head, Jack; you're 300 feet". The latter statement was taken as a warning for Captain MORRIS to watch ahead. This warning came after the following events as analyzed by the Board. During the turn, prior to the crash, Captain MORRIS was concentrating his attention on maintaining visual contact with the runway by looking out the co-pilots window. He inadvertently lost altitude prompting CDR BAKER's warning which occurred too late to effect complete recovery. 56522 struck the ground in a near flat attitude with an angle of impact of approximately 10 degrees.

- 8. Crash-Rescue equipment was on the scene within minutes and the fire was extinguished except for burning magnesium. Most of the fuel fire extinguished itself and very little of the surrounding area was burned. There were three survivors who were taken by the Air Force helicopter to the Central Suffolk Memorial Hospital at Riverhead. Four bodies were removed and taken to Suffolk County AFB. LT RALPH, a survivor, died approximately 5 hours later. The last body was recovered in the main body of the wreckage about 7 hours after the crash by an organized search party of Air Force Personnel.
- 9. A wreckage diagram was prepared and parts identified. During interview, AEI (b) (6) stated that there was no malfunction of the engines or controls. From his statement, the observations of witnesses, examination of the wreckage, and the tape recordings, the Board concluded that there was no material failure or malfunction.
- 10. The airspeed indicators were found but it was not possible to determine the impact airspeed. The Board considered the speed to be approximately 100 kts. Cockpit altimeters were found and the correct altimeter setting of 29.01 was set in each. It was not possible to determine the indicated altitude at impact.

11.a. The following records were received from the NWEF pertaining to the crew of 56522:

Capt. Morris

Transport Plane Commander Request (C-54)

Transport Plane Commander Designation (C-54)

Letter of certification of C-54 Standardization Check

Instrument Card Request Form, dated 6/6/63

Instrument Exam answer sheet taken 5/31/63, 8½ errors cut of
56 answers, grade 3.4

Annual Flight Time Reports, Fiscal 62 & 63

Medical Clearance Form, NAVMED 1381 dated 27 July 1962

S-24 Check-out Certification, 11/29/63

T-14 Check-out Certification, no date

Cdr. Baker

Transport Second Pilot Designation, dtd 8/2/63(unsigned)
Instrument Card Request Form, dated 9/10/63
Instrument Examination Answer Sheet, taken 9/3/63, 52 errors out of 37 answers, grade 3.5
Annual Flight Time Report, Fiscal 63
S-2A Check-out Certification, 8/5/63
A-1E Check-out Certification, 11/29/63

- Seitz, ADR1 Letter from squadron stating he reported on 7/14/61, had a total of 795.8 hours in the C-54 since 1/30/62 and had completed requirements for designation as an aircrew member.
- AE1 Letter from squadron stating he reported on 8/9/60, had a total of 376.4 hours in the C-54 since 9/9/62 and had completed requirements for designation as a flight engineer.
- b. The following records were not received from the NWEF:

Capt. Morris - NATOPS Standardization Check Form.

Cdr. Baker - NATOPS Standardization Check Form
Medical Clearance Form - however last annual physical
on 10/10/63 was satisfactory.

Seitz, ADR1 - No records

(b) (6) AE1 - No records

12 During a telephone interview with LCDR (b) (6) it was determined that actual instrument conditions were encountered immediately after take off from Kirtland and during approach at Bunker Hill. LCDR (b) (6)

12 cont. further stated that all flight instruments were fuctioning normally and that Captain Morris, when not in the pilot seat, was observing from a position just aft of the co-pilots seat. To his knowledge, Captain Morris

did not rest during this leg.

13. At 2304 Navy 56522 requested Quonset Point weather which was above minimums at 500 broken, 1000 broken, 1500 overcast, visibility 5 miles with light rain. Peconic weather was also above minimums and the visibility had been improving since weather was reported to 56522 upon initial contact with Peconic towers. This improved visibility was never reported to Navy 56522. Light rain and fog prevailed however, restricting forward visibility, especially with the landing lights on as reported in Mr. Douglas' statement.

14. A C-54 from NAS New York was used by the Board to try and duplicate the approach and wave off pattern of 56522. The gross weight of this aircraft was about 55000 pounds. The three control tower operators that were on duty the night of the accident were positioned in the control tower at Peconic River for this demonstration. Radio contact was established and an ILS approach was started, following as closely as possible the flight path of 56522 just prior to the crash. The weather for the demonstration was sky clear and visibility better than 10 miles. Wind was 190/15kts, gust to 20/28kts during this flight. The ILS minimums at Peconic River are 300 feet and 3/4 mile visibility straight into runway 05. The aircraft was at 600 feet on the localizer and purposely remained high on the glide path. As the aircraft neared the position the witnesses said 56522 broke contact the aircraft was nosed over for a steep rate of decent. Just as the nose dropped below the horozion the middle marker started to flash. This descent was continued to the end of the runway. The aircraft was set up with 2300 rpm and 23" MP, flaps at 300 and gear down and locked. The aircraft was allowed to drift to the left and away from the approach end of the runway. At about 25 feet altitude a wave off was taken and gear was raised, flaps to 150. No power was added, airspeed was at 140 kts as wave off was commenced. The aircraft paralled the runway (05) and a gradual climb was started. Distance to the left of runway 05 and altitude was governed by the witnessess in the control tower. When the altitude was reached that looked about the same as 56522 had reached the aircraft was at 200 feet and the airspeed had fallen to 110 kts. At the apex of runway 05 and 14 a turn was started to the right and steepened to what appeared to be the same as observed by the witnesses in the tower. At this point power was added to the aircraft. The angle of bank was 450 and air speed was 95 kts. A 900 turn was completed and the wings rolled level and nose dropped. The wreckage of 56522 was directly below.

15. The crosswind was 50 degrees at a 15.2 knot component which would have been well within safe limits for landing on either runway 05 or 14.

weight of Cast Des

#### B. PERSONNEL FACTORS

#### 1. Pilots

- a. Captain MORRIS was designated a transport plane commander by the Commandant, EIGHTH Naval District on 2 July 1963 and an entry was made in his pilot's log book by (b) (6) At this time, Captain MORRIS had a total of 90.4 hours in the C-54, accumulated since September 1962. Of this time only 9.0 hours was logged as local training, the remainder being accumulated on cross-country flights. Only the latest pilot's log book was available to the Board dating back to June 1956 and bringing forward a total time of 3332 hours. OPNAVINST 3740.40 requires a minimum of 250 hours pilot time in model. Prior to this fatal flight, Captain MORRIS had accumulated a total of 161.3 hours in C-54 aircraft. Captain MORRIS was issued a special instrument rating on 8 May 1963, having maintained a standard instrument rating until that time. No instrument or local standardization check forms were in Captain MORRIS' jacket however a statement has been submitted certifying completion of both checks. No Line Standardization Check Flight was recorded. Captain MORRIS had completed three actual instrument approaches in the C-54 with the last approach recorded on 20 November 1963.
- b. CDR BAKER was designated a Transport Second Pilot on 2 August 1963 by Captain MORRIS, the Commanding Officer, NVEF, and entry was made in his pilot's log book on 27 August 1963. At this time, the log book indicated CDR BAKER had a total of 95.4 hours in the C-54, accumulated since January 1963. Only the latest pilot's log book was available to the Board dating back to July 1961 and bringing forward a total of 4,098 hours. Prior to this flight, he had accumulated a total of 154.1 hours in the C-54. CDR BAKER was issued a standard instrument rating on 10 September 1963. The last actual C-54 instrument approach recorded was on 15 July 1963, his last actual approach was made in an S-2A on 13 November 1963.
- c. Although maximum crew duty time was not exceeded, fatigue is considered a contributing factor since Captain MORRIS awakened about 0500T and was in the air a total of 9.5 hours without any significant rest. He was at the controls approximately 5.5 hours.
- d. Another contributing factor was the weather as it created an additional burden on the pilot at the end of a long flight. Gross-wind added to the difficulty during the landing approach.
- e. The Medical Officer's Report revealed no evidence of physical incapacitation of either pilot prior to the crash.

### 2. Maintenance, Servicing and Ground Handling Personnel

Investigation did not reveal any such factors contributing to this accident or pertinent to prevention of similar accidents.

### 3. Supervisory

a. Investigation reveals a general lack of compliance with provisions of OPMAV instructions in that, (1) Captain MORRIS had not attained the minimum requirements for transport plane commander at the time of designation; (2) Qualification of crew members was not adequately documented to assist the Board during investigation, NWEF provided certifying statements.

### C. MATERIAL FAILURES OR MALFUNCTIONS

An inspection of the aircraft log books, check sheets and past yellow sheets indicated no outstanding maintenance discrepancies. All applicable technical orders, service changes and general engine bulletins had been complied with. The aircraft was in a sound mechanical condition and all components were operating normal at the time of the accident. This is also verified by (b) (6) AEL, the surviving plane captain who was occupying the jump seat on impact. An emergency did not exist and aircraft maintenance is not considered a contributing factor in the cause of this accident.

### D. FACILITIES

- 1. There were no facility factors involved in this accident.
- 2. The Peconic IIS was out of service from 2247Z to 2326Z due to weather effects. There was no actual discrepancy discovered; when the maintenance man arrived to check the equipment, whatever had caused the trouble was no longer in evidence. The trouble could have been caused by rain shorting out the electrical antennas. The IIS system was flight checked at 0500Z and again in the morning. All components flight checked were found to be within the prescribed tolerances as specified in sec.217 of the U. S. Standard Facility Flight Check Manual.

### E. NATOPS

1. In accordance with paragraph 120h(2), page 1-4 the following currency requirements were not completed within the last 3 month period:

19

SPECIAL HANDLING REQUIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SEC. I, OPNAVINST 3750.6E
NWEF AAR 1-64A

#### a. Captain MORRIS

One night landing
One engine-out approach
One engine-out landing
One engine-out wave-off
One non-radar approach

### b. CDR BAKER

Two night landings
One GCA approach
One engine-out approach
One engine-out landing
One engine-out wave-off
Two non-radar approaches

2. 100 hours flight time in model are required for designation as Aircraft Commander. A discrepancy exists between NATOPS and OPMAVINST 3740.40. The Board has not made a recommendation to correct this discrepancy in accordance with OPMAVINST 3510.9.

# PART VIII CONCLUSIONS

1. The cause of this accident was failure of the pilot to maintain sufficient altitude while executing a low visibility approach at Peconic Airport and flying into the ground.

# PART IX RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. During low altitude operation of multi-piloted aircraft in marginal conditions, adopt positive procedures to insure that one pilot monitor the instruments at all times.
- 2. Recommend NWEF review air crew qualifications records and procedures for adequacy and completeness and insure that all crew qualifications are met prior to designation.
- 3. Recommend Buwep conduct a review of R&D activities under their management cognizance to determine degree of progress towards completion of NATOPS requirements where applicable.

NASC/00 See 30/ 474 Car 6 1964

## SPEEDLETTER

From: Commander, U. S. Naval Aviation Safety Com-To: Commanding Officer, Naval Wespens Svaluation

Albuquerque, New Mexico

Subj: NWEF Albuquerque mag 070700Z of Feb

Subject message concerns AAR.

Advance copies not received.

Request status of report.

(b) (6

By direction

S. NAVAL WEAPONS EVALUATION FACILITY KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO, 87117

FF12/JBC:fcd 13000 Ser A0/ 5113

#### SPEEDLETTER

Commanding Officer, U.S. Naval Weapons Evaluation Facility, Kirtland Air Force Base, Albuquerque: From:

New Mexico

Commander, U.S. Naval Aviation Safety Center, Norfolk, Virginia To:

Subj: Message 070700Z of FEB concerning NWEF accident

(a) Commander, NASC spdltr ser 53/474 of 6 Apr 64 Ref:

Subject message originated by NAS New York vice NWEF and included NASC as addressee.

All copies of the AAR were received from CNAB Third Naval District on 31 March and will be distributed on 9 April.

Operations Officer





File Masc/hy
1 June 1964

#### MEMORANDUM

From: LCDR (b) (6)

To: Commander, U. S. Naval Aviation Safety Center Via: (1) Head, Accident Investigation Department RSP

(2) Chief of Staff

Subj: NASC Investigation 26-64 concerning C-54Q BUNO 56522 accident occurring 6 February 1964 near Peconic River Airport, Calverton, Long Island, New York

Ref: (a) C-54 NATOPS Manual

(b) OPNAVINST 3740.4C

Encl: (1) Statement of Alfred T. Douglas

1. C-54Q BUNO 56522 assigned to Naval Weapons Evaluation Facility (NWEF) Kirtland AFB, New Mexico, piloted by CAPT K. H. MORRIS, USN and CDR R. J. BAKER, USN, crashed on 6 February 1964 at 1913R, on Peconic River Airport, Calverton, Long Island, New York and sustained ALFA damage. There were six crewman and two passengers aboard at the time of the mishap. Five of the crewmembers and passengers were fatally injured on impact. There were three initial survivors, the plane captain and the two passengers. One survivor expired a short while later. The plane captain and the other passenger received critical injuries. There was no damage to private property. One civilian, Alfred T. DOUGLAS, passing by at the time of the accident, was slightly injured during his efforts to rescue survivors (enclosure (1)). Mr. DOUGLAS was instrumental in rescuing the 3 survivors.

### 2. The investigation revealed the following:

a. The aircraft departed Kirtland AFB, New Mexico at 0629T 6 February 1964 for Bunker Hill AFB, Indians. During this first 5 hour 35 minute leg the Plane Commander, CAPT MCRRIS, and the co-pilot, CDR BAKER, traded off pilot duties with two other pilots on board, LCDR (b) (6) and LT ABEL. At Bunker Hill AFB, LCDR (b) (6) deplaned and two passengers were picked up, SGT (b) (6) USAF and LT S. E. RALPH, USNR. After one hour and seventeen minutes of ground time during which the aircraft was fueled and a flight plan filed, the C-54Q departed Bunker Hill AFB for Peconic River Airport. CAPT MORRIS occupied the left seat and CDR BAKER occupied the right seat throughout this flight. On arriving in the vicinity of Peconic, New York, Air Route Traffic Control (ARTC) advised BUNO 56522 that the Peconic weather was 500 feet overcast, ly miles visibility in rain and fog, and also that the ILS was down. Since the weather as given was at VOR approach minimums the ARTC controller also asked the pilot his intentions. The reply was to the effect that a VOR approach to runway five would be attempted and if unsuccessful, the aircraft would proceed to its alternate. Following this exchange, ARTC cleared the sircraft for a VOR approach and to the Peconic Tower frequency. On switching frequency to the Peconic Tower, 56522

was again given the weather, 500 feet overcast, 15 miles visibility with light rain and fog, altimeter 29.01 and the surface winds as SE 26 knots. About one minute later the aircraft was informed that the ILS was back in operation. 56522 replied that a VOR approach would be continued. For seven minutes following this exchange, Peconic Tower could not contact 56522. 56522 then called Peconic Tower and informed the tower controller that he had been in contact with MY ARTC and was now cleared for an ILS approach and was approaching the middle marker. 56522 continued inbound on an ILS approach. The aircraft did not make visual contact on this approach and returned outbound for another approach. At the outer marker inbound, the aircraft was given the surface winds, 15-20 knots from 100 degrees, and cleared for an ILS straight in approach to runway 5. The approach was continued and the aircraft became contact at the middle marker. 56522 then reported that a landing on runway 5 could not be accomplished due to the crosswind. The aircraft waved-off and paralled runway 5 having drifted about five-hundred feet downwind (West) of the runway. The tower controller offered to turn the lights on runway 14 up to landing brilliance. 56522 agreed since this would put the landing a little more directly into the wind line. Although the tower controller did not inform 56522 of the fact, the visibility had improved to 5 miles by this time. As 56522 approached the upwind end of runway 5, the lights on runway 5 were dimmed and the lights on runway 14 were illuminated. As this time the tower controller offered 56522 a choice of a 270 degree left turn or a "360 right turn" (from the aircrafts heading at this time a 450 degree turn would be required to effect a landing on runway 14). The aircraft entered a right turn at about 300 feet. After about 135 degrees of turn the aircraft contacted the ground inside the field boundary & mile from the upwind end of runway 5. Just before the sircraft contacted the ground a transmission from 56522 was received in Peconic Tower to the effect, "Watch your head, Jack, we're at 300 feet," in an excited voice.

b. CAPT MORRIS was the Plane Commander (PC) and the Commanding Officer, Naval Weapons Evaluation Facility. He was designated a PC for C-54 aircraft by Commander, Naval Air Bases Eight on 2 July 1963 and held a special instrument card. The flight records for CAPT MORRIS were not complete. His current log-book commences in January 1956. CAPT MORRIS' flight experience was: 4351 hours all models; 192.9 hours all models in the last 12 months; 41.4 hours in all models last 3 months; 163.9 hours all series this model; 120.3 hours all series this model last 12 months; 27.6 hours all series this model last 3 months; 14.6 hours instruments last 3 months; last flight all series this model 31 January 1964; 5.9 hours flight time in the last 24 hours. CAPT MORRIS was considered to be a second tour VR pilot at NWEF in PC training in the C-54. His letter designating him a PC was issued with less than a total of 100 hours in C-54 aircraft since January 1956. CAPT MORRIS did not meet the NATOPS currency requirements for C-54 type aircraft, reference (a), in that he was short one non-radar approach and one landing for the previous 3 consecutive months. Since September 1962, CAPT MORRIS had completed 30 C-54 instrument approaches, 4 of which were in actual IFR conditions. CAPT MORRIS' last actual instrument approach in C-54 aircraft was made in April 1963. It was determined that CAPT MORRIS was in actual control of the aircraft at the time of the mishap.

The co-pilot, CDR BAKER, was designated a C-54 Third Pilot (3P) on 27 August 1963 and held a current standard instrument card. CDR BAKER's pilot experience was: 4509.7 hours all models; 248.0 hours all models last 12 months; 63.5 hours all models last 3 months; 166.8 hours all series this model; 161.6 hours all series this model last 12 months; 38.1 hours all series this model last 3 months. CDR BAKER did not meet NATOPS currency requirements, reference (a), in that he was short one GCA, one non-radar approach and one night landing in C-54 type aircraft in the previous three months. Since July 1961 CDR BAKER has made 27 instrument approaches and 2 of them were under actual IFR conditions. His last actual IFR approach in a C-54 was on 15 July 1963.

- c. C-54Q, BUNO 56522 was accepted by the Navy on 19 July 1945, and had flown 20,659.3 hours since acceptance. The aircraft is in the progressive maintenance program in its third cycle, fourth period. Hayes Aircraft Corporation performed the last progressive maintenance work 7 months prior to this accident. A second intermediate check was performed 54 days prior to the accident. The aircraft had accumulated 150.8 hours since this last check.
  - d. Engine failure/malfunction was not a factor in this accident.
- 3. Analysis of the wreckage indicated the following:

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- a. The aircraft contacted the ground in a 5 degree nose down 5 degree right wing down attitude at an estimated airspeed of 130 knots. Ground scars indicated that all four engines were developing moderately high power, estimated at 30 inches manifold pressure, 2300 revolutions per minute, on impact.
- b. On initial contact 3 feet below the bank of a gully, the starboard main fuel cell ruptured spraying fuel forward along the wreckage path. The aviation gasoline ignited and an explosion similar to a naplam bomb ensued.
- c. The starboard wing separated from the aircraft and continued along the wreckage path.
- d. The nose section of the fuselage forward of the main spar fractured and broke up along the right side of the wreckage path strewing occupants and personal gear.
- e. Survivors of the accident were located in the nose section and passenger compartment at the time of the accident. The plane captain, (b) (6)

  ARL was seated in the jump seat between the pilots without a seat belt. (b) (6)

  was critically injured. The other survivor, (b) (6)

  S/SCT, USAF, was seated in the passenger compartment facing aft with seat belt in place. (b) (6)

  was severely burned in attempting to evacuate from the remaining burning fuselage section after it came to rest.

- f. The flight orderly, R. W. CALDWELL, ADJAN, was standing in the passenger compartment at the time of the accident. He was fatally injured and his body was not found for several hours due to location under major portion of the wreckage.
- g. All other crewmen were located in the crew compartment forward of the passenger compartment. With the exception of (b) (6) all were fatally injured. LT Stephen E. RALPH, USNR, the other passenger was also in the crew compartment and survived for a very short time after arriving by helicopter at the Central Suffolk County Airport.
- h. Altimeters in the cockpit were set at the correct barometric pressure as given by Peconic Tower at the time of the accident.
  - i. There was no indication of control malfunction/failure.
- j. The surviving plane captain stated that he did not note, nor was aware of any failure or malfunction of any system or component prior to the accident.
- k. There was no discrepancy reported by Federal Aviation Agency flight check of the ILS approach on 7 February 1964.
- 1. Weight and balance information available indicated that the aircraft was well within tolerances of percent Mean Aerodynamic Chord. Based on fueling data at the point of departure and at bunker Hill AFB the gross weight of the aircraft was calculated to be 63,100 lbs at the time of the accident, which is well below the maximum gross weight allowable.
- m. Flaps were set at 15 degrees on impact. Landing gear was in the up position and landing lights were extended and on at impact.
- n. Aircraft maintenance history (yellow sheets) that were carried aboard the aircraft were not recovered. Interrogation of the plane captain, (b) (6) revealed that there were no outstanding discrepancies that could contribute to the cause of the accident.

#### 4. Conclusions:

a. The most probable cause of this accident was pilot factor. In view of the relatively limited experience in the aircraft of the pilot and copilot, the long elapsed time since their last actual instrument approaches, and the weather conditions, the pilot apparently attempted to remain contact under marginal weather conditions.

#### 5. Discussion:

a. The designation of CAPT MORRIS as a PC by COMNABS EIGHT may be criticized in the light of the grave outcome. However, a more objective

view could hardly criticize COMNABS' for designating CAPT MORRIS a PC. A senior officer with the experience, maturity and demonstrated judgement that is inherit in the rank of Captain must certainly be given credit for these qualities. There is no formula for determining these qualities. Confidence in the naval promotion system, service reputation and many other less tangible factors endorse COMNABS action in designating CAPT MORRIS a PC.

b. Reference (b) has been reviewed by this writer and found to clearly set forth the requirements for qualification for command of fixed-wing multipiloted aircraft. However, any and all of these requirements may be voided by applying paragraphs 6 asterisk note, 6.e, 8.c and 8.e of reference (b). This instruction (reference (b)), therefore, sets forth policy and guidance, but does not make the requirements mandatory. Another view that should be stated as regards reference (b), is the one from the vantage point of command. Without command prerogative, which is amply provided for in reference (b), the Commanding Officer of any unit would be severely curtailed.

### 6. Recommendations:

- a. None
- b. In the event Commander, NAVAVNSAFECEN desires to recommend that reference (b) be revised, the originator will re-submit this report to reflect the desired changes to reference (b).

Very respectfully,
(b) (6)

LCDR USN

Copy to:

Chief of Staff 10 (2)

20 (2)

40 (2)

50 (2)

Statement of Alfred T. DOUGLAS, Representative, International Brotherhood of Teamsters concerning the mishap of C-54 BUNO 56522 at Peconic River Airport on 7 February 1964 at 1913R.

I was driving in my car on Rt. 25 heading east. There was a light rain but the visibility was clear along the road. I first noticed the aircraft as it traveled east, parallel to my car. It was a four engine plane and did not appear to be having any trouble. The landing lights were on. The right wing dipped and the plane turned, headed south and crossed the road about 5 to 6 telephone pole lengths in front of my car. The plane leveled its wings, decreased its speed and made what appeared to be a normal set down onto what I thought must be a landing strip inside the north fence. The flaps were down and the plane disappeared from sight beyond the trees inside the fence. . There was no sound of engine trouble that I could hear. Next there was a crashing sound as the plane disappeared beyond the trees. For the first time I saw flames. About 3 seconds later there was an explosion as the plane turned into a fireball. The woods were aflame and I realized the plane had crashed. I immediately pulled my car off the road and parked near the fence. I left my car and climbed on top of the fence. I made a leap and landed on the ground inside the fence. I found a dirt road leading south and started running up the road toward the crash area. I made my way to the front of the wreckage and left the road. I cut through the woods and got inside the burning area near the plane. I starting calling to find if anyone was still alive. I heard voices calling from two directions. I went to the voice coming from the middle area of the plane. I found one man lying on the ground about 20' W of the burning wreckage. He was in no immediate danger from flames. He said "What happened." I told him he was alright and not to worry. I told him to lie still and I would be right back to help him. I returned to the front section of the wreckage where the other voice was coming from. The wreckage was a wall of flames. Suddenly the directional shouts turned to cries of pain as the flames reached the man inside the wreckage. A section of the metal started to shake as the man inside tried to beat his way out. Then I caught a quick outline of the man trapped inside. I reached through the opening in the flames with my right arm. He grabbed me with both hands and I pulled as hard as I could. The metal just seemed to part as I pulled him out through the flames. I dragged him about 25' from the wreckage. The back of his jacket was burning and I beat out the flames with my hands. I was wearing gloves and did not receive burns on my hands. The man was able to walk with my help and together we made it through the woods to the dirt road. We both fell in the mud at the roadside. I got up and made my way back to the wreckage to the first man I had found. The brush around him was now burning and I stayed there keeping a clear circle beat around him. This I did by stomping on the burning brush with my feet. I then heard the rescue crew by the road. I shouted to them and met them part way in from the dirt road. I led them to the man with the and they carried him out on a stretcher. I returned to the roadside and checked the man I left there. He was still conscious. He told me his hands hurt. I reassured him that everything was alright. He told me his name was Walter. He said the plane was a C-54 but he did not remember how many were on board. The rescue crew found a third man still alive. They carried him out on

an emergency stretcher made from a fire ladder and coats from the fire engine. We waited for the rescue vehicle to arrive to remove them. A short while later a helicopter arrived. We placed the three injured men inside the copter and it took off. The men had received some emergency treatment from a doctor that was on the scene shortly before the copter arrived. Two more copters arrived and additional fire fighting equipment. I found the Officer in Charge, identified myself and asked permission to leave if I was no longer needed. The Officer thanked me for my help. He had some men drive me back through the dirt road to the north fence. I left through an emergency opening in the fence just east of my car. My car was stuck in the mud and I had to have two young fellows who were standing near the fence drive me in their car to Riverhead. The following morning I had (b) (6)

/s/ ALFRED T. DOUGLAS

Board Comment:
This man is credited with saving the life of (b) (6)

MEI, and preventing more serious injury to (b) (6)

S/SGT, USAF. This is considered a creditable statement, material is verbatum.

Authenticated:

(b) (6)

Aviation Safety Officer

SPECIAL HANDLING REQUIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH OPNAVINST P3750.6E

Enclosure (1) to MASC Investigation 26-64

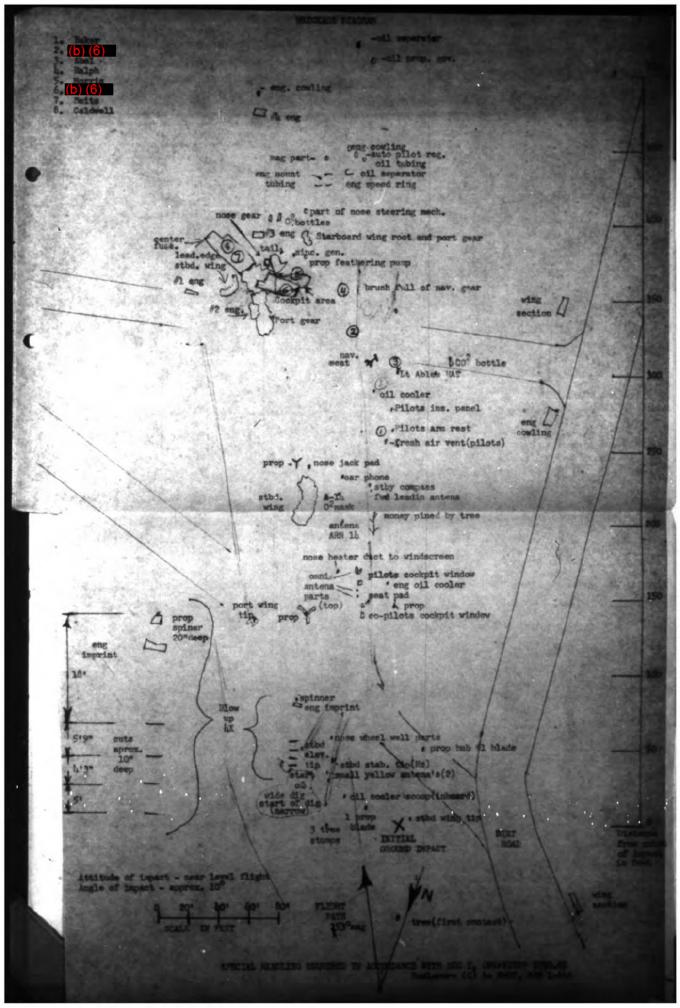
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SPECIAL HANDLIND REQUIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SEC I, OPHAVIRST 3750.62 Enclosure (B) to NGEF, AAR 1-64A

2339

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Summary of transcriptions of recorder tape of N.Y. Air Route Traffic Control Center from 20452 to 23432 concerning the mishap of 0-54, Buno 56522 at Peconic River Airport on 6 Feb 1964 at 1913R.

2045@KT

The New York Center received an estimate on Navy 56522, transponder equipt, a C-5h, transport from the Bunker Hill AFB, Ind. to the Peconic Airport, N.Y. via Victor Airways 276, 251, 36 to the Riverhead, N.Y. VOR direct, maintaining 9,000 feet, estimated the Tyrone, Pa. VOR at 2217 GNT, from the Cleveland Air Route Traffic Control Center.

2159GMT

The New York Center issued routing to the Cleveland Center for relay to Navy 56522 as follows, Victor Airways 276, 16 to the Riverhead, N.Y. VOR direct the Peconic Airport. The Cleveland Center advised the New York Center, that Navy 56522 was estimating the Tyrone VOR at 2215@NT.

2215GMT

New York Center established radio contact with Navy 56522. Navy 56522 estimated the Ravine, Pa. VORTAC at 2234GMT, maintaining 9,000 feet. The New York Center issued a Phillipsburg altimeter of 29.02 to Navy 56522.

2223GMT

Navy 56522 reported his position, 38 miles West of the Ravine WOR.

2228GMT

The New York Center advised Navy 56522 of a light rime icing condition at 7,000 feet and negative turbulence reported.

223LOMT

Navy 56522 reported over the Ravine VOR estimating the Quakertown, Pa. intersection at 22500MT at 9,000 feet.

22350MT

The New York Center cleared Navy 56522 to descend and maintain 8,000 feet and issued a Allentown altimeter of 29.02. Navy 56522 departed 9,000 feet.

2237QIT

Navy 56522 reported reaching 8,000 feet.

2242GMT

The New York Center established Radar contact with Navy 56522.

2218GMT

A Radar hand off and coordination was effected with the adjacent sector, #9, along Navy 56522's route of flight. Navy 56522's position, as determined by Radar, 7 miles West of the Allentown 198 Radial (Victor Airway 29).

-1-

SPECIAL HANDLING REQUIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SEC. I, OPMAVINST 3750.6E Enclosure (J) to NWEF, AAR 1-64A

#### Time 23362

56522: Peconic Tower, Peconic Tower, Navy 56522, over.

Tower: Navy 6522, Peconic Tower. Go ahead.

56522: 522, we're 12 miles South of Riverhead. We are cleared, ... we have been cleared by New York Control for a VOR approach to your station. Have you got the latest ceiling and visibility ... (break), over.

Tower: Roger 522, the Peconic altimeter is now 29.01. The winds are from the Southeast running 26 knots. The weather is partial obscuration measured 500 overcast, 1 and a half miles in light rain and fog.

56522: Roger. We're going to attempt, ... we're going to make a VOR penetration and if possible land if we can break out to minimums. If not we will probably proceed to Quonset, our alternate.

Tower: Roger, 522. We will be using Runway one-four. The lights are on full brilliance.

56522: Roger, thank you.

56522: Peconic Tower, 56522, say again your runway that's in use.

Tower: 522, it will be runway one-four, runway fourteen.

56522: Runway 14, roger.

Tower: 522, be advised at this time the ILS is back in operation. However, it would probably take you some time to change your type of approach.

56522: 522, Roger.

K

56522: 522, Roger. We'll go ahead and continue our VOR approach and if we don't make that we'll - a - try it again on ... (transmission cut off).

Tower: Roger, understand, you'll continue the VOR. If you miss the approach, try an IIS.

Tower: 522, Peconic, what is your position now? (no reply).

Tower: Peconic Tower testing 1-2-3-4-5-5-4-3-2-1.

Tower: Navy 522, Peconic Tower. (no reply). (Intermittent static).

-1-

SPECIAL HANDLING REQUIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SEC. I, OPNAVINST 3750.6E Enclosure (K) to NWEF, AAR 1-64A

Tower: Navy 522, Peconic Tower, do you read? (no reply). (Intermittent static).

Time 23442

56522: Peconic Tower, Navy 56522.

Tower: 6522, Peconic, go ahead.

56522: We have been cleared by New York Control for an ILS approach. We are now inbound to the middle marker.

Tower: Roger, 6522, we'll have the lights coming up on runway zero-five full brilliance. Give us a call when you have contact and we'll bring them down so you can land.

56522: Roger, thank you.

Tower: 522, you can make it a straight in on runway zero-five. The wind is 100 degrees, 18 gusting to 25 knots. (no reply). (Intermittent static).

Tower: 522, Peconic, what's your position now?

56522: 622, we're just about overhead. We're getting some pretty rough weather. I think we ought to try another approach.

Tower: Roger, 522. We don't have you in sight.

Tower: 522, what's your present heading?

56522: This is 22, our present heading is three-five-zero.

Tower: Roger.

56522: Tower, this is 56522, we're inbound on about a heading of 110 to the middle marker and we're preparing to execute another ILS approach.

Tower: Roger, 522, cleared for your approach. The wind is now indicating one hundred and 20 degrees between 20 and 30 knots. The lights are on runway zero-five.

56522: Roger, thank you.

Tower: Navy 522, Peconic, what's your position now?

56522: 522 we're outbound on ILS leg. We're just passed the middle marker.

Tower: Roger 522. Call the outer marker inbound.

56522: Roger, 522.

56522: This is 522, inbound outer marker.

Tower: 522, Peconic, cleared inbound. Cleared to land runway tero-five.
The wind is 100 degrees running between 15 and 20 knots now.

56522: Roger.

Tower: 522, we have you in sight.

56522: 56522, we're contact but we're going to have to take it around again.
We're getting too much wind; we're drifting.

Tower: Roger, 522.

Tower: 52?, do you want to just head out? We'll throw the lights on lh for you.

56522: Let's see, that will put the wind a little more directly on the runway, I believe. Wouldn't it?

Tower: Roger.

56522: Yeah, let's have the lights on Runway 14.

Tower: How's that?

Tower: Take a left 270 if you wish or a right 360 onto Runway 14.

56522: Watch your head, Jack; you're 300 feet. (excited voice).

Time 00132

## Board Comment:

56522's voice was determined to be that of CUR R. J. BAKER by CDR (D) (6)
Project Director, BULTPS, Naval Meapons Evaluation Facility, who listened to
the recording with the Board members. Peconic does not have a device which
records the time of transmission on the tape. The times other than the crash
time, which was logged by the tower, are from interpolation of the times from
the FAA tapes.

Authenticated:

Aviation Safety Officer

-3-

SPECIAL HANDLING REQUIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SEC. I, OPHAVINST 3750.6E Enclosure (K) to NWEF, AAR 1-66A

22490HT

New York Center, sector #11 transferred Navy 56522 to New York Center, sector #9, frequency 290.2 mcs.

2251GMT

New York Center, sector #9, established Radar and radio contact with Navy 56522.

2252CMT

The New York Center re-cleared Navy 56522 to the Peconic Airport via Victor Airway 276 the Robbinsville, N.J. VOR thence the Robbinsville 122 Radial to intercept Victor Airway 139 to the Hampton, N.Y. VOR direct Peconic.

2256@IT

New York Center sector #9 effected coordination and a Radar hand off with the adjacent sector, #5, along Navy 56522's route of flight. Navy 56522's position, as determined by Radar, 5 miles West of the Bublin intersection. New York Center sector #9, transferred Navy 56522 to New York Center sector #5 frequency.

2257@MT

New York Center sector #5 established Radar and radio contact with Navy 56522.

230LCMT

The New York Center advised Navy 56522, that the Peconic IIS was out of service, the weather was dropping rapidly and the current weather was 500 feet overcast visibility 12 miles. The New York Center advised the pilot of Navy 56522 to advise of his intentions. The pilot of Navy 56522 stated, "if below minimums for a VOR we'll go to our alternate Cuonset Point."

2305GMT

Navy 56522 request the Cuonset Point weather. The New York Center cleared Navy 56522 to contact Idlewild Flight Service Station for the Quonset Point weather.

2307GMT

Navy 56522 reported over the Robbinsville VOR.

2309@MT

The pilot of Navy 56522 advised the New York Center that he would defer his decision until he got closer to the Peconic Airport, and if the ceiling permitted he would make a VCR approach otherwise he would proceed to his alternate. The New York Center cleared Navy 56522 to the Hampton VCR, clearance limit.

2310GMT

Intra center coordination was effected by New York Center sector #5 and sector #10.

2315GMT

New York Center sector #5 effected a Radar hand off with New York Center sector #10, adjacent sector, on Navy 56522. Navy 56522's position, as determined by

-2-

SPECIAL HANDLING REQUIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SEC. I, OPNAVIDST 3750.6E Enclosure (J) to NWEF, AAR 1-64A Radar, on the Robbinsville 122 Radial crossing Victor Airway 16.

2316GMT

New York Center sector #5 transferred Navy 56522 to New York Center sector #10.

23200MT

New York Center sector #10 established radio and Radar contact with Navy 56522. The New York Center issued a Radar vector via a left turn to 050 degrees.

2323CMT

The New York Center issued a Radar vector via a right turn to 060 degrees.

The New York Center cleared Navy 56522 to descend and maintain 4,000 feet. Navy 56522 reported leaving 8,000 feet.

Intra Center coordination was effected between New York Center sector #10 and sector #6. The New York Center cleared Navy 56522 to descend and maintain 3,000 feet. Navy 56522 reported leaving 6,500 feet. The New York Center cleared Navy 56522 to the Riverhead VOR, clearance limit, via present heading, 060 degrees, until leaving 4,000 feet then proceed direct to the Riverhead WOR.

2333@MT

The New York Center effected coordination with Kennedy approach control for the use of 3,000 feet and below at the Riverhead VOR.

2334CMT

Navy 56522 reported leaving 4,000 feet and proceeding direct the Riverhead VOR.

The New York Center cleared Navy 56522 for a VOR approach to the Peconic Airport. Navy 56522 acknowledged receipt of the approach clearance. The New York Center terminated Radar service to Navy 56522 and cleared him to contact Peconic tower. Navy 56522 advised leaving New York Center frequency and changing to Peconic tower's frequency.

23420MT

Navy 56522 returned on the New York Center's frequency and advised his position was 5 miles West of the Riverhead VOR at 3,000 feet. The pilot further stated that the Peconic tower advised him the ILS was operational and requested an ILS approach to the Peconic Airport.

2343@IT

The New York Center cleared Navy 56522 for an ILS approach to the Peconic Airport. Navy 56522 acknowledged receipt for the approach clearance.

No more follows.

Aviation Safety Officer

SPECIAL HANTLING REQUIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SEC. I, OPNAVINST 3750.6E Enclosure (J) to NMEF, AAR 1-64A Statement of Michael A. CHARTUK, Night Tower Supervisor, Peconic River Airport concerning the mishap of C-54 Buno 56522, at Peconic River Airport on 6 Feb 1964 at 1913R.

- At 2245Z the ILS monitor flashed Localizer and Glide Path in the red. Having an IFR inbound (Navy 56522, ETA 2339Z), I promptly NOTAMed the Localizer and Glide Path out (2246Z) and urged W.K. at FAA Flight Service Station to expedite maintenance men to the ILS and requested he notify NYARTC, since we below minimums for a VOR approach. Also, I asked if Nevy 56522 had an alternate. At this time, I took note that fuel exhaust time for Navy 56522 was given as 0519Z.
- 2319Z At 2319Z, F.Z. at NYARTC notified us that Navy 56522 was inbound. Weather at this time was Partial obscuration, Measured 500 overcast, 13 miles visibility with light rain and fog, minimums for a VOR approach. In view of this, and also in view that the FAA maintenance men had arrived, had already restored the Localizer (2316Z), and were preparing to restore the Glide Path, I accepted the IFR inbound.
- 2325Z At about 2325Z, Navy 56522 called Peconic Tower for an IFR (2336Z) VOR approach, cleared by NYARTC to Peconic. Navy 56522 was given weather, partial obscuration 500 overcast, 12 miles visibility with very light rain and fog, altimeter 29.01, and wind.

At 2326Z, FAA maintenance notified us the Glide Path was restored, putting the ILS system back to normal operation. Navy 56522 was called and advised of this. He replied he would continue his VOR approach. Several minutes (about 7) passed with no further contact with Navy 56522. During this several minutes Peconic Tower attempted, without success, to get position reports.

- 2332Z About 2332, Navy 56522 called Peconic Tower saying he was (2344Z) in contact with NYARTC and was now cleared for an ILS approach and was approaching the Outer Marker.
- 2340Z After about 8 or 9 minutes, Peconic Tower requested a position report. Navy 56522 reported "about overhead" and was going to try another HS approach. Navy 56522 was neither seen nor heard at this time.

-1-

SPECIAL HANDLING REQUIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SEC. I, OPNAVINST 3750.6E Enclosure (L) to NWEF, AAR 1-64A

### Michael A. CHARTUK

- 2352Z On the next call for a position, Navy 56522 reported he was at the Middle Marker outbound. He was asked to report Outer Marker inbound. All personnel were on the lookout for the aircraft and the weather was observed but not recorded.
- OOOTZ In due time, Navy 56522 reported Outer Marker inbound. A
  weather check showed measured 500 overcast, 4 miles visibility
  with very light rain and fog. Navy 56522 was given wind and
  cleared for a straight in approach, and if he wished, landing
  Runway 5. Navy 56522 broke out in line with Runway 5. The
  lights which had been put at full brilliance to assist contact,
  were dimmed.
- Navy 56522 rapidly descended to the runway and pulled up calling for a wave off saying he was wind blown and would land on Runway 14. It was agreed that Runway 14 was more into the wind. Navy 56522 was cleared for the wave off and when the aircraft had crossed the end of the ILS runway, lights were switched to Runway 14 and the aircraft was cleared for a 270 to the left for Runway 14. Up to this point Navy 56522 was climbing out of the wave off and was wing level.
- OO12Z Immediately after crossing the projected end of Runway 32, -Navy 56522 banked sharply to the right in a descending turn.
- O013Z I saw ragged orange flame about two aircraft lengths long trail the aircraft. At once, what was the aircraft, became a rectangular, brighter orange flash about three aircraft lengths long, parallel to the ground. The rectangle became immediately surmounted by a blinding, white, hemospheric explosion.

Time was noted as 0013Z. Emergency procedures were instituted immediately.

An aircraft accident local weather observation was taken at 0013Z (1900EST) and inadvertently placed in R1900 FINO line in WBANIO.

/s/ Michael A. CHARTUK

Michael A. CHARTUK

Board Comment:
The times other than the crash (0013Z) are inaccurate, the approximate times are given where known in () under the listed times, all other material is verbatum. The "ragged orange flame" cannot be explained; there was no fire in flight. This is assumed to be imagined by the witness.

Authenticated:

(b) (6)

Aviation Safety Officer

Statement of Lester L. KIEHN, Tower Controller, Peconic River Airport concerning the mishap of C-54 Buno 56522, at Peconic River Airport on 6 Peb 1964 at 1913R.

At approximately 2325Z, Navy 522 called Peconic Tower that he had been cleared for a VOR approach to Peconic by NYARTC. At this time he was given the field weather conditions and cleared outbound.

At about 2330Z, the aircraft was informed that the Peconic ILS, which had been inoperative, was back in service. The pilot of Navy 522 informed the tower that he would continue his VOR approach. A minute or two later, the Tower tried to contact the aircraft for a position report and received no answer. Some time after this, Navy 522 called Peconic Tower and told us he had been in contact with NYARTC and was now cleared for an ILS approach, and was Middle Marker outbound.

We received no calls for about 7-10 minutes. The Tower called 522 for a position. The pilot of 522 said he was nearly overhead and was going to try another ILS approach. The aircraft had not been in sight, or heard, at this time. About 3 minutes later, the Tower called 522 for a position, and he replied at the Middle Marker outbound. The Pilot was asked to call at the Outer Marker inbound. The next call received from 522 was at the Outer Marker inbound. At this time, he was given the wind velocity and direction and cleared for a straight in landing on Runway 5.

Aircraft became visual at or near the Middle Marker descending at a steep angle. The pilot at this time told the Tower he was waving off due to too much crosswind. The Tower suggested Runway 14 which was more into the wind and the pilot agreed that he all like it. At all times after passing the Middle Marker, the reraft was in visual contact by the Tower and appeared to be a normal wave off.

522 was cleared for a left 270 turn on to final for Runway 14 from a point approximately 500 feet over the apex of Runways 14/23 and a Northeast heading. The lights were put on Runway 14. At this time the aircraft was observed to bank steeply to the right and nose down. The pilot or co-pilot was heard to say "Look out you are at 300". The ship continued in a descending right turn and struck the ground at a point approximately 2 mile Northeast of the apex of the runways.

Lester L. KIEHN

A fuel explosion followed. Fire crash equipment was alerted.

Rescue operations were hampered by heavy mud and the inaccessible locations of the crash site.

/s/ Lester L. KIEHN

Board Comment:
The times given are inaccurate, being approximately 11 minutes early. Material is verbatum.

Authenticated:

(b) (6)

Aviation Safety Officer

Statement of Alfred T. DOUGLAS, Representative, International Brotherhood of Teamsters concerning the mistap of C-54 Buno 56522, at Peconic River Airport on 6 Feb 1964 at 1913R.

I was driving in my car on Rt. 25 heading east. There was a light rain but the visibility was clear along the road. I first noticed the aircraft as it traveled east, parallel to my car. It was a four engine plane and did not appear to be having any trouble. The landing lights were on. The right wing dipped and the plane turned, headed south and crossed the road about 5 to 6 telephone pole lengths in front of my car. The plane leveled its wings, decreased its speed and made what appeared to be a normal set down onto what I thought must be a landing strip inside the north fence. The flaps were down and the plane disappeared from sight beyond the trees inside the fence. There was no sound of engine trouble that I could hear. Next there was a crashing sound as the plane disappeared beyond the trees. For the first time I saw flames. About 3 seconds later there was an explosion as the plane turned into a fireball. The woods were aflame and I realized the plane had crashed. I immediately pulled my car off the road and parked near the fence. I left my car and climbed on top of the fence. I made a leap and landed on the ground inside the fence. I found a dirt road leading south and started running up the road toward the crash area. I made my way to the front of the wreckage and left the road. I cut through the woods and got inside the burning area near the plane. started calling to find if anyone was still alive. I heard voices calling from two directions. I went to the voice coming from the middle area of the plane. I found one man lying on! the ground about 20! W of the burning wreckage. He was in no immediate danger from flames. He said "What Happened." I to him he was alright and not to worry. I told him to lie still and I would be right back to help him. I returned to the front section of the wreckage where the other voice was coming from. The wreckage was a wall of flames. Suddenly the directional shouts turned to cries of pain as the flames reached the man inside the wreckage. A section of the metal started to shake as the man inside tried to beat his way out. Then I caught a quick outline of the man trapped inside. I reached through the opening in the flames with my right arm. He grabbed me with both hands and I pulled as hard as I could. The metal just seemed to part as I pulled him out through the flames. dragged him about 25' from the wreckage. The back of his jacket was burning and I beat out the flames with my hands. I was wearing gloves and did not receive any burns on my hands. The man was able to walk with my help and together we made it through the woods to the dirt road. We both fell in the mud at the roadside. I got up and made my way back to the wreckage to the first man I had found. The brush around him was now burning and I stayed there keeping a clear circle beat around him. This I did by stomping

SPECIAL HANDLING REQUIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SEC. I, OPNAVINST 3750.6E Enclosure (N) to NWEF, AAR 1-64A on the burning brush with my feet. I then heard the rescue crew by the road. I shouted to them and met them part way in from the dirt road. I led them to the man with the (b) (6) they carried him out on a stretcher. I returned to the roadside and checked the man I left there. He was still conscious. He told me his hands hurt. I reassured him that everything was alright. He told me his name was Walter. He said the plane was a C-54 but he did not remember how many were on board. The rescue crew found a third man still alive. They carried him out on an emergency stretcher made from a fire ladder and coats from the fire engine. We waited for the rescue vehicle to arrive to remove them. A short while later a helicopter arrived. We placed the thee injured men inside the copter and it took off. The men had recieved some emergency treatment from a doctor that was on the scene shortly before the copter arrived. Two more copters arrived and additional fire fighting equiptment. I found the Officer in Charge, identified myself and ask permission to leave if I was no longer needed. The Officer thanked me for my help. He had some men drive me back through the dirt road to the North fence. I left through a emergency opening in the fence just east of my car. My car was stuck in the mud and I had to have two young fellows who were standing near the fence drive me in their car to riverhead. The following morning I had a (b) (6) treated at the hospitial in riverhead.

/s/ Alfred T. DOUGLAS

Board Comment:
This man is credited with saving the life of (b) (6)
USAF and preventing more serious injury to (b) (6)
This is considered a creditable statement, material is verbatum.
Douglas has had 3 years experience as a fireman and 3 years in
Authenticated:

the Naval Air Réserve Program.

(b) (6)

Aviation Safety Officer

Statement of Neil K. WARREN, Plane Captain, Grumman Aircraft Engineering Corporation concerning the mishap of C-54 Buno 56522, At Peconic River Airport on 6 Feb 1964 at 1913R.

I was standing by (in font of operations) to receive A/C after landing. The A/C approached the East/Not Runway from the West. He leveled off at about 300 ft alt. for the entire length of the Runway and didn't seem to gain any altitude as length of the Runway and didn't seem to gain any altitude as he made a right bank just past the North end of the North/South Runway. I heard no abnormal noises as the A/C passed or till Runway. I heard no abnormal noises as the A/C passed or till explosion. Myself and 2 others were the first on the scene with explosion. Myself and 2 others were the first on the scene with the exception of a civilian who climbed the fence and ran over the exception of a civilian who climbed the fence and ran over the exception of a civilian who climbed the fence and ran over the exception of a civilian who climbed the fence and ran over the exception of a civilian who climbed the fence and ran over the exception of the bulk of the wreckage, the other four were in the same area but had no pulse beat.

I was informed prior to the crash, that the A/C was comming in on I.L.S. on the East/West Runway which had lights on. Minuets before he made his pass from the West the Runway lights went out on the E/W Runway and went on - on the North/lights went out of the Nort

/s/ Neil K. WARREN

Board Comment: This is considered a creditable statement, material is verbatum.

Authenticated:

(b) (6)

0

Aviation Safety Officer

SPECIAL HANDLING REQUIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SEC. I, OPNAVINST 3750.6E Enclosure (0) to NWEF, AAR 1-64A

Statement of James F. CONLAN, Plane Captain Concerning the mishap of C-54 Buno 56522, at Peconic River Airport on 6 Feb 1964 at 1913R.

I was awaiting arrival of C-54, to assist in parking and loading aircraft. It was raining with good visibility but ceiling about 500 ft. I was standing ouside Grumman operations observing C-54 making what I assumed to be an ILS approach on runway 5 going east - he passed over runway at about 300 ft. - I assumed he was making a pass before landing - his gear appeared to be down as well as I could make out by his landing lights. As he passed over I noted the runway light on runway 32 or N.S. were on. I then thought he would go around and land on that runway, as this was more into the wind which was coming from SE. I seen him go into a tight right turn, I thought for a minute he was trying to make the other runway without going around. He scared me I could see his port running light so I knew his turn was tight then he lost altitude and I knew he had it. A few seconds later there was a roaring orange flames that lit the sky. I jumped in my jeep and drove to the crash site and assisted in removing the injured and deceased.

/s/ James F. CONLAN

## Board Comment:

Witness stated that it did not seem as though full power was added for a wave-off. The aircraft passed over the runway in level flight then entered a right turn until the crash. This is considered a creditable statement, material is verbatum.

Authenticated:

(b) (6)

P

Aviation Safety Officer

SPECIAL HANDLING REQUIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SEC. I, OPNAVINST 3750.6E Enclosure (P) to NWEF, AAR 1-64A

Statement of Eugene M. GERMOND, Government Inspector, Grumman Aircraft Engineering Corporation concerning the mishap of C-54 Buno 56522, at Peconic River Airport on 6 Feb 1964 at 1913R.

The witness answered the questions on NASNY-SAF-3750/21 (4/63).

- 1. Misty visability fair
- 2. Approach for landing
- 3. 2 engines running not full power
- 4. Unknown
- 5. No
- 6. Port side on fire before landing

Heard no explosion

/s/ Eugene M. GERMOND

Board Comment:
Witness stated he saw the aircraft on fire before impact, however, from the position of the witness in his living room, he could not see the aircraft until it struck the trees. This witness has 32 years experience around aircraft as a mechanic and inspector.

Authenticated:

(b) (6)

Q

Aviation Safety Officer

SPECIAL HANDLING REQUIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SEC. I, OPNAVINST 3750.6E Enclosure (Q) to NWEF, AAR 1-64A

CAPT Kyle H. MORRIS Service Group 3, Category 4

CDR Robert J. BAKER Service Group 1, Category 1

	,			Service Group 1, Category 1						
Fiscal Year	Type A/C	Hours		Fiscal Year	Type A/C	Hours				
1960	C-1 TC-45J	77.0		1960/1961 -	no log date	availal				
	C-47	4.0		1962	C-45	93.0				
1961 .	C-47	1119.0		1963	TC-1:5J C-51:Q	24.0				
1962	TC-45J	82.0			C-1,7	5h.0				
	C-47	8.0			A-10	21.0				
1963	S-2A	34.0			C-1 S-2A	7.0				
	T-1A	12.0			o-en	2.0				
	C-54Q	91.0	9.1	1964	C-54Q	104.0				
	A-lG	6.0			S-2A	39.2				
	P-3A	3.0			A-1E	14.0				
	F-LB	1.0			7	200				
1964	S-2A	37.4								
	T-1A	11.8								
	C-54Q	70.3								

## Instrument Approaches Previous 90 Days

Date Type A/C		Type Approach	Date	Type A/C	Type Approach				
2 <b>-</b> 5 1 <b>-</b> 31	T-1A C-54	2 - ILS - simulated 1 - OCA - simulated(N)	1-30	A-IE S-2A	1 - ILS - simulated 1 - ILS - simulated				
1-29	T-1A S-2A	1 - ILS - simulated 2 - ILS - simulated 1 - ILS - simulated(N)	1-10	C-54 S-2A	1 - GCA - simulated * 1 - ILS - simulated 1 - ILS - simulated				
12-30 12-17 12-13	C-54 T-1A	1 - ILS - simulated 1 - GCA - simulated 2 - ILS - simulated	12-19 12-16 11-18	C-5h C-5h S-2A	1 - OCA - simulated 1 - GCA - simulated 1 - ILS - simulated(N)				
12-6	S-2A T-1A	1 - IIS - simulated 1 - GCA - simulated	11-13	S-2A S-2A	1 - VCR - simulated(N) 1 - CCA - actual				
11-20	C-54	2 - IIS - simulated 1 - IIS - actual (N) 1 - GCA - actual (N)			1 - IIS - actual				

On 26 of 35 flights since 1 July 1963, CAPT MCRRIS made at least one simulated approach.

On 32 of 50 flights since 1 July 1963, CDR BAKER made at least one simulated approach.

SPECIAL HANDLING REQUIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SEC. I, OPNAVINST 3750.6E Enclosure (R) to NWEF, AAR 1-6LA

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DD . . 365 FAL HANDLING IN ACCORDANCE WITH SEC. I, OPNAVINST 3750.61

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SPECIAL HANDLING REQUIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SEC. I, OPHAVINST 3750.6E Enclosure (U) to MMEF, ARR 1-66A

# U. S. NAVAL WEAPONS EVALUATION FACILITY EINTLAND AIR PORCE BASE ALBUQUENOUS NEW MERICO

3740 3740 38r: 3200/754 11 JUN 1963

From: Commanding Officer, U.S. Naval Wanpons Evaluation Facility, Kirtland Air Force Dase, Albuquerque,

To: Commandant, BIGHTH Naval District

Subj: C-54 Plane Commander Designation; request for

Raf: (A) CPNAVINST 3740.40

V

Encl: (1) Transport Plane Commander Designation Form (Sample)

1. Certification of enclosure! (1) in the case of CAPT K. H. MCANIS, USN is requested in accordance with reference (a).

2. CAPT MOREIS was previously qualified in multi-piloted hiroraft (TF, R4D). He has accumulated 85 hours in the C-54Q (R5D-3) during checkout, familiarization and cross-country flights and has clearly demonstrated the requisite knowledge, skill and capabilities for this designation. He holds a current special instrument rating and has a total of 4215 hours pilot time.

(b) (6)



SPECIAL RANDLING REQUIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SEC I, OPNAVINST 3750.6E

CAPP K. H. HORRED, USS, (b) (6)

Subji Transport Plans Communior; designation of

Befr

(a) OPENVIROR 3700.40 (b) Near 1tr or 11 Jun 1963

1. In secondance with the provisions of reference (a) and the recommendation contained in reference (b), you are hereby designated a TRAMSPORT FLARE .

CONSUMER in the C-54 model aircraft.

2. Certification of this designation shall be made in your Avietor's Flight Log Book, in accordance with puragraph 11 of reference (a), citing this letter as authority. This designation will be noted in your next Ruport of Fitness and a copy of this letter shall be filed in your Officer Service

H. C. SPICER, Jr. Acting

CERTIFIED A TRUE CONT

ED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SEC I, OPMAYDIST 3750.6E Englowere (M) to MEET, ARR 1-644

## TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

- 1. This is to certify that CAPT K. H. MORRIS, USN, satisfactorily completed a special instrument and yearly standardization check for C-54 type aircraft on 12 June 1963.
- 2. GAPT MORRIS had previously completed a written examination on the 0-54 aircraft handbook. He desired to retain the completed examination for his personal files, however, the exam cannot now be located.

(b) (6)

U.S. Naval Veapons Evaluation Facility



SPECIAL HANDLING REQUIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SEC. I, OPNAVDIST 3750.68

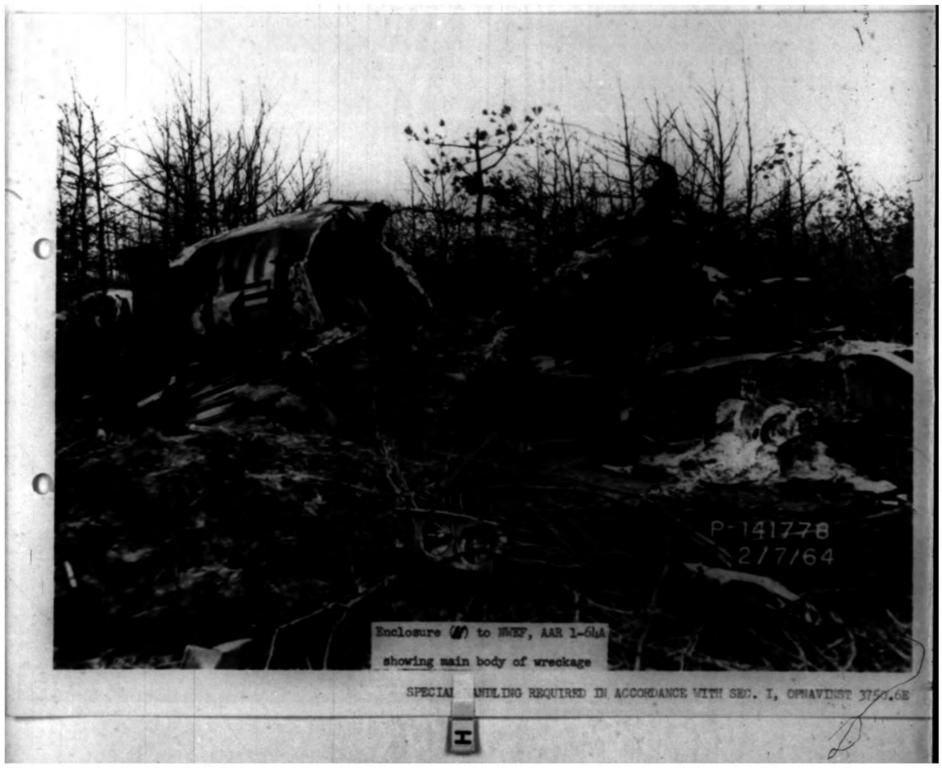


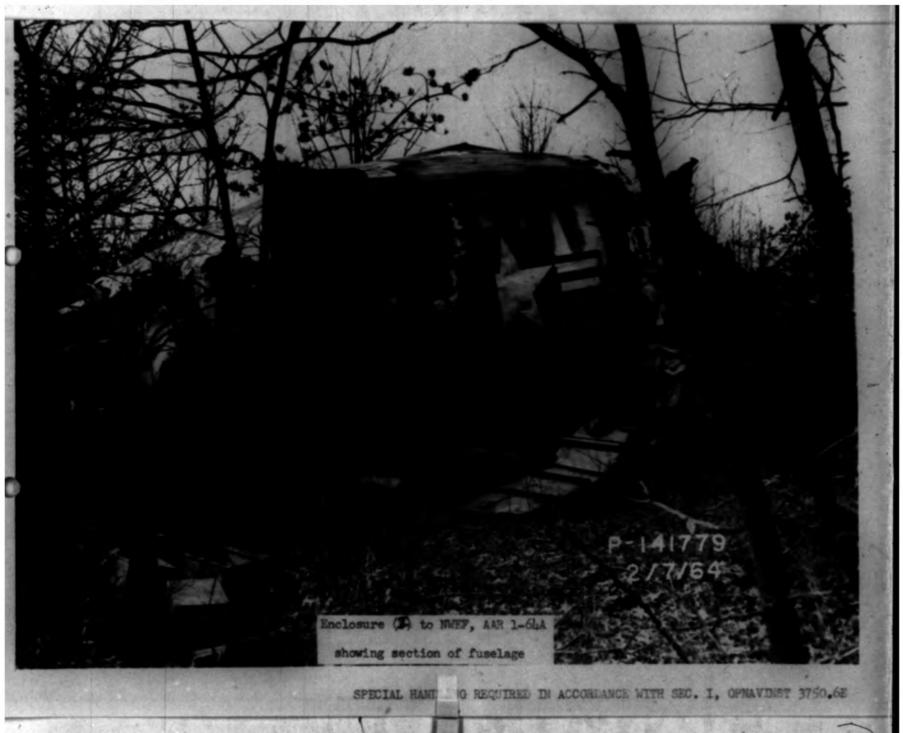


SPECIAL HANDLING REQUIRED IN ACCOMMANCE WITH SEC 1, OPHAVINST 3750.6E Enclosure (F) to NMEF, AAR 1-664



HANDLING REQUIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SEC. I, OPHAVINST 3750.6E







Enclosure (T) to NWEF AAR 1-64A showing probable flight path prior to impact SPECIAL HANDLING REQUIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SEC I, OPNAVINST 5750.6E

4900TH USAF DISPENSARY 4900TH AIR BASE GROUP Kirtland Air Force Base New Mexico 87117

REPLY TO

ATTN OF: SWBDS/Capt O'Briant/2364

13 February 1964

SUBJECT: Medical Officer's Report of Accident, C-54, Home Station

Kirtland AFB, lolex

TO: Flight Surgeon Aircraft Investigation Board

Dear Doctor

1. The following information is submitted with regards to the C-54 accident on 6 February and with special reference to page 2 of MOR of accident. The investigation here reveals no pertinent physiological, socio-physiological or other personal factors. However, for your information the following is submitted on each crewman.

a. Capt Kyle Hunter Morris. I have personally been acquainted with Capt Morris for approximately one year and during this period of time I have flown with him and seen him in my office for minor illnesses. I also accomplished his most recent physical examination in June 1963. There was not to my knowledge any predisposing physical condition which would be relevant, I believe, to this investigation. Further, Capt Morris seemed to take pride in maintaining good physical condition. the 24 hours preceeding the flight there were no unusual events in Capt Morris' routine. Discussion with Capt Morris' wife reveals that he was in excellent spirits as usual the day and evening prior to the day of the accident. He was at home that evening and had one drink before dinner and one drink before retiring. It might be noted that Capt Morris was never an excessive drinker. He retired early and had approximately 9g hours sleep. He arose at approximately 0500 hours in order to meet the proposed 0630 take-off. To Mrs. Morris' knowledge there were no family problems whatsoever and there were no financial problems or any other type problem. There is no indication whatsoever that he was preoccupied with anything. He had a very adequate breakfast on board the aircraft approximately 45 minutes after take-off. This was confirmed by Commander (b) (6) who was aboard (co-pilot), the flight as far as Bunker Hill AFB, Indiana. Commander (b) (6) relates that Capt Morris seemed his usual self, did not appear tired, preoccupied nor did he give any indication that he was not his usual self. As far as lunch was concerned it appears that flight lunches were ordered at Bunker Hill and taken aboard the aircraft. This I believe is all the pertinent sociopsychiological factors preceeding the flight.

SPECIAL HANDLING REQUIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH OPNAVINST 3750.6E Enclosure (2) to NVEF AAR 1-64A

- b. Commander Robert Baker. Commander Baker had what appeared to be a normal duty day prior to the day of the accident. Information from his wife indicated that the evening and night prior to the flight was completely uneventful. He was in good spirits and was not preoccupied with any family problems nor any socio-economic problems. He had no alcoholic intake the night preceding the accident and retired earlier than usual and had approximately 8 9 hours of uninterupted rest according to Mrs. Baker. The Commander was in the habit of retiring early the night before a flight in order that he receive adequate rost. Commander Baker also arose at approximately 0500 hours on the morning of the accident. We had breakfast aboard the aircraft approximately 12 hours after take-off, again according to Commander (b) (6). All of the crewmen he was sure ate their breakfast which he describes as quite adequate. There is no other pertinent socio-psychological or environmental information on Commander Baker.
- c. It Allen Abel. It is my understanding that Lt Abel was not actually a crew member however the following information is submitted. It Abel's family had left the area therefore we were unable to obtain direct information; the following was obtained from close associates. The day prior to the accident was a normal duty day for Lt Abel, with no notable events occurring the evening and night prior to the accident; Lt Abel bowled in a mixed league with his wife the evening of 5 Feb 64. He retired at a normal time for him, however he made a comment to Commander (b) (6) (with whom he rode to work the morning of the accident) that after retiring he was unable to sleep for some reason which he attributes to his bowling and that he tossed and turned until approximately 0300 hours. Otherwise there are no other factors that I am able to elicit. He also had an in-flight lunch after departure from Bunker Hill.
- d. Norman Ralph Seitz. The information indicates he had an uneventful day prior to the flight and information from a friend (next door
  neighbor) with whom he was visiting that night indicates that the evening
  and night was completely uneventful and that he did not seem preoccupied
  with any family or socio-economic problems. As best as can be determined
  he retired at a usual time and received a normal amount of rest. He too
  had breakfast aboard the aircraft and as far as can be determined had an
  in-flight lunch after departing Bunker Hill.
- e. Rex Watson Caldwell. The following information was obtained on this man from a close associate and long time acquaintance. He had no family problems or troubles, no pressing debts or financial problems and appeared to be in excellent spirits the day before and the morning before take-off. This associate states that Caldwell had not been drinking the night prior to the accident and that he had a good nights rest. He also had breakfast aboard the aircraft and as the other crew members the breakfast was considered quite adequate. He also as best can be determined had planned an in-flight lunch after departure from Bunker Hill.

- 2. I have been unable to determine for sure whether lunch for all the crew members was planned in-flight after departing Bunker Hill or not however according to Commander Stolpe (who departed at Bunker Hill) he felt that the crew members are planned to order in-flight lunches at Bunker Hill and eat lunch after take-off. This then concludes the information that I have been alle to get together for you which I thought might give you a little back round to support the page 2 work copy of each crewman that I am forwarding. I am unable to complete Section D, Aircraft Data Book and personal records have been forwarded to the Board therefore I assume this information is available to you.
- 3. If I can be of any further assistance please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

Captain, USAF, MC Flight Medical Officer 5 Atchs

Transcript of statement of (b) (6)
in jump seat in cockpit, concerning the mishap of C-54, BuNo 56522 at
Peconic River Airport on 6 February 1964 at 1913R.

- Q. You say coming out of Albuquerque was just a normal routine flight right?
- A. Right.
- Q. Did Capt MORRIS and CDR BAKER make the take-off at Albuquerque?
- A. Yes Sir.
- Q. Where was Mr. (b) (6) on this leg?
- A. On this leg, I believe that he was in the lounge compartment.
- Q. Landing at Bunker Hill, do you remember the weather conditions?
- A. I don't remember. I believe it was pretty fair weather.
- Q. You were on the jump seat for the landing at Bunker Hill and Capt MORRIS was on the left side and CDR BAKER on the right side?
- A. Yes Sir. It was possible that Mr. (b) (6) was on the right side, one of the two, but I am sure that the Capt made the landing.
- Q. You were on the ground about an hour and a half at Bunker Hill and departed for Peconic, was any reference or statement made by Capt MORRIS to CDR BAKER about the enroute weather or weather at Peconic?
- A. Yes Sir. They discussed and said it was pretty bad weather at Peconic.
- Q. Was there anything ususual about the flight from Bunker Hill to Peconic?
- A. No Sir. It seemed to be a normal flight
- Q. How about chow?
- A. We had chow..some of us ate just before landing at Bunker Hill and some of us ate just after we took off from Bunker Hill.
- Q. Was this box lunches prepared at Albuquerque or was this unprepared rations?
- A. Unprepared rations, we had cheeseburgers. I believe the Capt had his after we were airborne again. Mr. (b) (6) had his before we landed because he was departing the aircraft at Bunker Hill and I think 3 or 4 people ate then and the rest of us ate after we were airborne again leaving Bunker Hill.

SPECIAL HANDLING REQUIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SEC I, OPNAVINST 3750.6E Enclosure (AA) to NWEF AAR 1-64A

- Q. You were in the cockpit, who made the take-off at Bunker Hill?
- A. The Capt made the take-off, CDR BAKER was on the right side.
- Q. Did they occupy these seats all the way from Bunker Hill to Peconic?
- A. Yes all the way.
- Q. They didn't rotate at all?
- A. No
- Q. Did you occupy the jump seat all the way?
- A. Yes.
- Q. And Seitz? (other Plane Capt)
- A. He stayed in the radio chair most of the time.
- Q. On coming into Peconic River, were you listening to Center on the head phones?
- A. No sir .. I didn't have a head set on.
- Q. Did the Captain make any reference to the weather to CDR BAKER upon arriving at Peconic River with reference to what their intentions were.
- A. Not to my knowledge, unless they were on ICS. Evidently they called in and were told the weather was bad and the Capt said he would like to go down and take a look and if we couldn't get in we would divert to Quonset Point. He said that they wanted to shoot an approach, see.
- Q. What type approach was this do you remember?
- A. I believe it was ILS.
- Q. Did you ever see the ground or anything on the first approach?
- A. No sir, I didn't personally see the ground, I didn't see anything, I wasn't especially looking, I was monitoring the instruments pretty close.
- Q. What kind of power was he carrying on the approach?
- A. He was carrying about 2300 RPM and 23".

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- Q. This was on the Glide Slope?
- A. Yes.
- Q. On the first approach when you didn't break contact, do you remember what power was added.
- A. When we climbed out, we were carrying about 35" and 2300 RPM. About normal climb power.
- Q. On the first approach, do you remember the flap setting?
- A. I think the flaps were down to 200.
- Q. How about the gear?
- A. The gear was down.
- Q. As the engineer riding the jump seat, were you utilized as an engineer or just more or less to monitor the instruments. Did you ever handle the power settings.
- A. Yes sir, we handle power settings sometime. We had just converted over to the NATOPS Standardiztion Manual and we had been handling some power.
- Q. You missed the first approach and started back, do you remember anything that transpired in the cockpit as far as re-tuning radio, rechecking them to make sure that they were working properly.
- A. Yes sir.. when we climbed out and leveled off the Capt said we'd get squared away and check everything over and we would make one more try.
- Q. How was the first approach?
- A. It was a little turbulent, in fact I believe we carried a little prop alcohol.
- Q. Did it seem like a normal ILS approach or was it a little erratic?
- A. As far as I know, it seemed pretty normal.
- Q. Have you ridden on ILS approaches with the Captain before?
- A. Yes sir, on training hops.
- Q. Do you remember breaking contact on the second ILS approach.
- A. No.
- Q. Do you remember executing the wave off on the second approach?
- A. No, I don't remember a wave off.

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- Q. Was any power added on this wave-off?-
- A. To my knowledge there was none.
- Q. The second approach was about the same power settings on the Glide Slope as on the first one about 2300 RPM and 23".
- A. Yes.
- Q. Do you remember the flap configuration?
- A. I think he was dirtied up, he was carrying full flaps and gear down.
- Q. Full 40° flaps?
- A. I believe so.
- Q. And the gear Down?
- A. Yes sir.
- Q. Do you remember where he called for the gear?
- A. No sir, I don't. I believe CDR BAKER was taking care of the gear and flaps.
- But you don't remember whether he put the gear down after or before contact.
- A. No sir.
- Q. Did he seem to push it over right at the last moment to break contact about the MM or do you remember the MM flashing on the dash, you know the yellow light on the dash?
- A. No, I don't remember.
- Q. You don't remember seeing that?
- A. No, I don't remember seeing that at all.
- Q. How sid he execute the wave off? When he started the wave off was it just a pull up or did he holler wave off for you to monitor the instruments and start the power up.
- A. I don't remember the wave off on the second one at all.
- Q. But to the best of your knowledge on the second wave off after you broke contact there was never any power added?

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- A. No sir, I didn't add any power. To my knowledge I never received the command to add power.
- Q. Do you remember the Capt asking for the flaps and gear up?
- A. No sir, I don't remember.
- Q. Do you recall ever seeing the field on the last approach? Did you ever look out?
- A. No, on a weather approach I made it a habit never to look up because it wasn't my responsibility. I was always monitoring the instruments.
- Q. Do you remember anything from the last wave off prior to the crash anything that transpired in the cockpit?
- A. The last wave off, the only thing I remember is the Capt said let's have a look and he called for the landing lights and I ran them down and that's when I saw the trees.
- Q. You don't remember a tight turn just prior to seeing the trees?
- A. No. It's possible there was a tight turn, it seemed that I was looking at the trees from a weird angle. It seemed that I was more or less looking up and out into the trees when I saw them.
- Q. You don't have any recollection as to airspeed?
- A. As near as I can tell, the airspeed was somewhere in the vicinity of 110 knots.
- Q. Was there any unusual talking or actions in the cockpit by CDR BAKER just prior to seeing the trees?
- A. Once, before I saw the trees I remember CDR BAKER pointed the sirspeed out to the Capt and the Capt said he was watching it.
- Q. You don't recall what the actual speed was?
- A. That's when it was around 110 knots.
- Q. I'm sure you have been in this aircraft when they demonstrated stalls.
- A. Yes.
- Q. Would you say this aircraft was stalled in the turn?
- A. I don't know, I couldn't say, I don't remember the turn.
- Q. From turning on the landing lights and seeing the trees, do you remember anything after that?

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- A. That's it, that's all I remember, I don't remember a thing.
- Q. Did Capt MORRIS fly this airplane very much.
- A. He flew it occasionally, none of the pilots fly it consistently.
- Q. Who is primarily your C-54 man at the Weapons Facility?
- A. CDR (b) (6) was our Projects Officer.
- Q. He was your better qualified Plane Commander, your check pilot?
- A. Well, more or less, he was the Projects Officer.
- Q. You flew with Capt MORRIS quite a bit on the airplane. How was he as a C-54 Plane Commander?
- A. He was usually very good. Very good flight commander.
- Q. How was his instrument work.
- A. Usually he was very good on instruments. He seemed to be very conscienous about his instrument work.
- Q. How about CDR BAKER in his instrument work. Would you say he was average or better than average Co-pilot?
- A. I would say he was probably average.
- Q. Was Capt MORRIS real proficient in instruments?
- A. To me, he seemed to be real proficient in instrument work. He did instrument work all the time on training hops and cross countries, he was constantly under the goggles. He was always doing instrument work.
- Q. On arriving at Peconic River, did everything seem normal.
  - A. Well, it seemed pretty normal to me, I wasn't on the head set or anything. I didn't hear Peconic talking to them, but it seemed pretty smooth and normal as far as I knew.
  - Q. There wasn't any confusion between Capt MORRIS or CDR BAKER as to what they were going to do or what they should do?
  - A. There didn't seem to be.

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- Q. Was there any discussion as to the weather being as bad as it was reported on arrival?
- A. Yes sir, they discussed it when we arrived. Prior to making the first approach, CDR BAKER made a remark that we ought to go on to Quonset Point and the Capt said he wanted to make an approach and look at it first.
- Q. The Capt wasn't confused on the approach?
- A. He didn't appear to be, no.
- Q. By missing the first approach, not breaking contact, it din't phase him to go ahead and proces to his alternate.
- A. No sir, he climbed back out and said let's get squared away and take one more look.
- Q. To the best of your knowledge, all of the Navigation equipment was working on the aircraft.
- A. Yes
- Q. How about the ILS, all components on the ILS.
- A. As far as I know it was working good.
- Q. Had it been checked before, prior to this flight?
- A. It has been working prior to the hop and seemed to be working on the pre-flight.
- Q. So it was checked pretty much on every flight?
- A. Yes
- Q. Do you remember any reference to the wind condition on the last approach?
- A. No sir.
- Q. You never did see the field, runway or anything on the last approxh.
- A. No, I never did, the only thing I saw was the trees. The way I understand it, the Capt and CDR BAKER did see the runway.
- Q. He saw the runway, but he made reference to the fact he was getting too much drift, too much cross wind and that's when he elected to go-around?
- Q. You say on this last approach, when he did break contact, he had the gear and flaps down?

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- A. To the best of my knowledge I would say that they were around 30° or full.
- Q. You don't have any idea how low he took it on the approach prior to the wave off?
- A. No sir.
- Q. Do you have any idea how high he climbed out on the wave off just prior to the crash.
- A. No, I don't have any idea.
- Q. To the best of your knowledge on the last wave off just prior to the crash, there was no power added.
- A. To the best of my knowledge, I don't remember any power being added.

  If power would have been added, the Capt would have added the power and I would have been given a command to back him up. I never received a command like this.
- Q. Was any reference made on the wave off as to which way they were going to turn. Was CDR BAKER asked to keep the field in sight as they made the turn?
- A. Not to my knowledge, I didn't hear this. They might have talked this over on the phones, I don't know.
- Q. In the normal conversation in the cockpit between the two pilots, was it on the inter-phone or was it just word of mouth?
- A. I believe most of it was just word of mouth. There was really very little conversation in the cockpit at all.

#### Board Comment:

(b) (6) was unable to write a statement due to his condition. His condition had greatly improved when this interview was made. The original interview was recorded, but did not transcribe properly. The statement that Capt MORRIS made the take-off at Albuquerque is incorrect. (b) (6) testimony is considered factual and sincere. His spirits were good despite his condition.

Authenticated:

(b) (6)

Aviation Safety Officer

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